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VOL. 26, NO. 21 • JANUARY 18-24, 2017

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# OUR 2017 NEW TO TOWN GUIDE!

**INSIDE:** ADVICE TO NEWCOMERS FROM NEWCOMERS **P. 11** • WHERE TO GET A HAIRCUT, AN ABORTION, YOUR TEETH CLEANED **P. 29** • HOW LONG TILL YOU CAN BITCH ABOUT... CONSTRUCTION, THE WEATHER, THE STRANGER... **P. 15** • CHARLES MUDEDE'S MAP OF LESSER-KNOWN MUST-SEE SEATTLE **P. 9**

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# the Stranger

Volume 26, Issue Number 21  
January 18–24, 2017



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Illustration by **KEVIN CANNON**  
kevincannon.org

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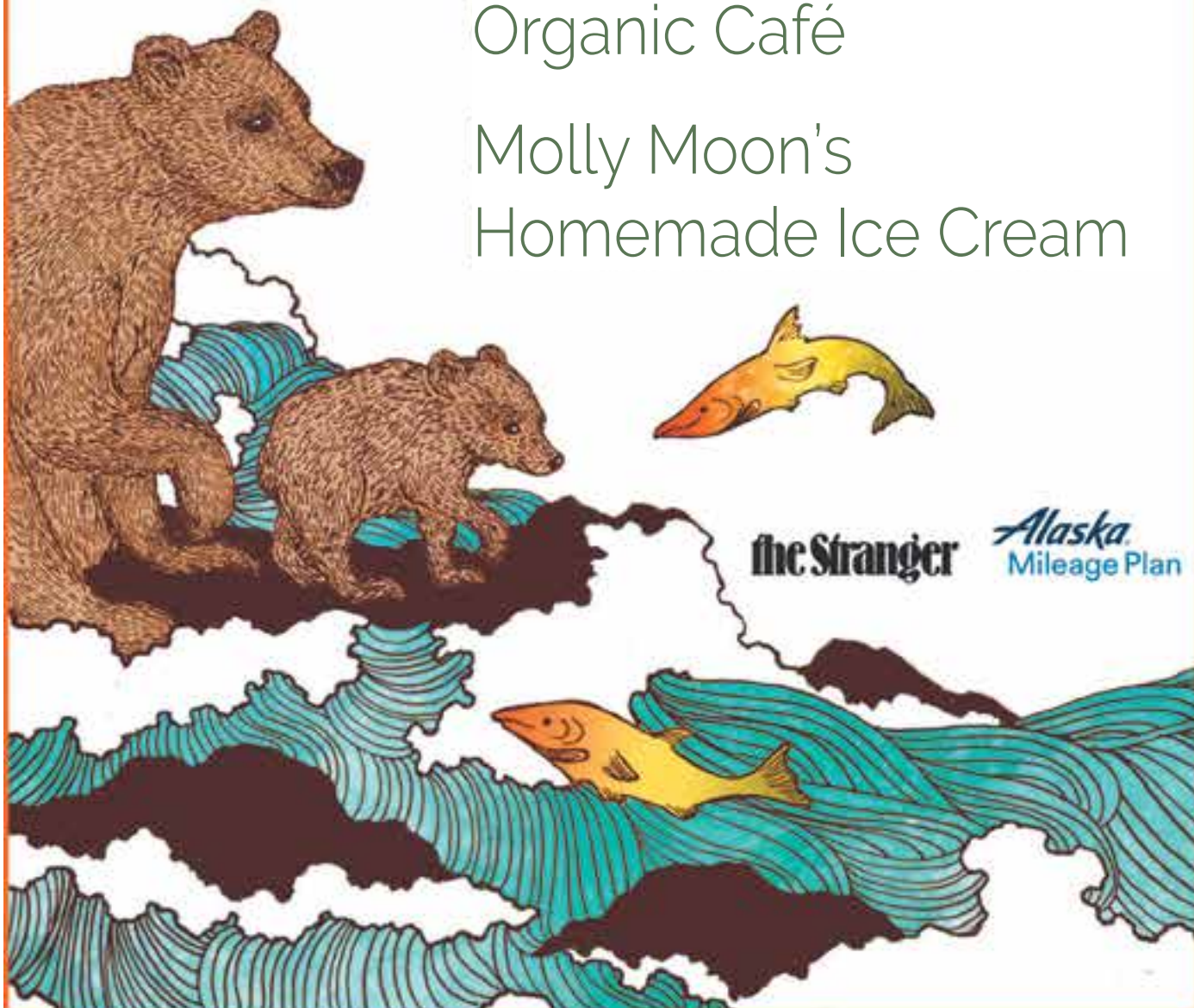
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## NEW TO TOWN

## Hello, New People!



## Here's Everything You Need to Know (and Some Things We'd Like to Forget) About Seattle

BY ELI SANDERS

**W**elcome! *Bienvenue!* Weeeeeeellcome! My dear techies and other recent arrivals, that's a *Cabaret* reference, and if you're like, "Duh, I know, don't talk down to me just because I'm a techie, asshole!"—well, sorry. But if you didn't get to hear those words sung from the stage at Re-bar before that place was dwarfed by new towers, then you're probably a little bit new to town and maybe, just maybe, we've got some insight into this city that'll help you make your way.

I mean, who does not want to take an educational tour of Seattle (page 9) with esteemed *Stranger* writer Charles Mudede, who the late blog Gawker (RIP) once described as "some sort of weird hybrid of Marie Antoinette and a class-deconstructing communist"? (The correct answer, if you're wondering, is no one. No one wants to miss a walking tour with Charles Mudede, especially not you. Take the Mudede walking tour!)

And hey, if you're already feeling a little defensive about all of this, a bit Seattle-splained to... don't. Because guaranteed, in a short time you'll be an advice-dispensing, Seattle-splaining old-timer yourself—just like the collection of one-year-in-Seattle "old-timers" we've assembled on page 11 to give you "expert" advice on how to live your life! Like them, you'll soon be bitching about all the best Seattle things to bitch about—traffic, apartment prices, people who are newer than yourself. But be careful: Our handy

guide on page 15 will keep you from bitching about these things any sooner than you have a right to. You're welcome.

Oh, and speaking of apartment prices: We went to a bunch of Seattle neighborhoods and checked out what a bunch of different kinds of apartments in different price ranges actually look like on the inside (page 17). And we're not even taking a cut of your future rent for the service! Oh, okay, you actually don't like any of the living options we found? Already feel like this city is going to hell unless it gets some real leadership fast? Then you need to get up to speed on local and state politics. On page 23, reporter Heidi Groover helps you do just that; on page 25, reporter Ana Sofia Knauf tells you how to fight Trump while you're fighting city hall; and on page 27, reporter Sydney Brownstone explains the local homelessness crisis you've probably noticed while going, well, anywhere in town. Plus, on page 29, information on where to get everything from a cheap haircut that doesn't suck to a good used bike and an abortion!

That should help you, newbies. And if it doesn't? Go take a ferry ride or stare at a mountain or—literally—jump in a lake (in the summer; not now, that would be bonkers). If that's too much exertion, rent one of those hot tub boats on Lake Union or, if that's too expensive, buy one legal joint of weed and take Mudede's walking tour backward. You could be in a worse place. ■

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A BIT ABOUT STEVE...

My favorite grower is **Sonic Green**. My favorite thing to do while high is paint with **watercolor** and play **video games**. My favorite bar is **Monkey Loft!** There's nothing like dancing on a rooftop! The last book I read was the most recent **Game of Thrones Book**. My favorite movie is **Cloud Atlas**. It's a sweet movie that touches on an interesting idea in a really well done way, everyone should watch it! I **prefer cats** because **they have more depth and personality**. Dogs will love anyone with a treat but cats take years to make a connection with.

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## NEW TO TOWN

# Map of Locations You Must Visit in Seattle

This Is the City You Will Not Find in a Brochure

BY CHARLES MUDEDE

It is easy to find the house where Kurt Cobain killed himself, but it's almost impossible to find the exact location where the body of Layne Staley, the lead singer of Alice in Chains, was found after a heroin overdose. This map provides the locations that certainly have mainstream significance but are not so straightforward. They are a little crooked. Other Seattle must-see maps will include the Space Needle and Pike Place Market, but I can promise that if you are new to town, knowing the places on this list will make you a real local.

## 1. The Whisky Bar

2122 Second Ave, Belltown

There was a bit of a scuffle, there was an unpaid tab in a Belltown bar, there was pop star Justin Bieber in the middle of all this. The bill he neglected to pay asked him for \$131.52. The headline of a post on Earn the Necklace: "Justin Bieber Net Worth in 2016 Closing In On \$200 Million." Bieber did later settle the bar tab.

## 2. Fantagraphics, Fantagraphics Bookstore and Gallery

7563 Lake City Way NE, Lake City; 1201 S Vale St, Georgetown

The hate-meme Pepe the Frog was not invented by the alt-right. Those types are too dumb to make anything interesting on their own. They instead took the frog from the pages of a comic book published by Fantagraphics. The company has its offices in Lake City and a bookstore and gallery in Georgetown.

## 3. CenturyLink Field

800 Occidental Ave S, Sodo

A black man took a bike from a cop and wasn't shot! This happened on January 18, 2015, right after the Seahawks defeated the always troublesome Green Bay Packers and won the NFC Championship. The black man who took the police bike, the Seahawks' defensive end Michael Bennett, did live and auctioned off the bike for \$10,000 for charity.

## 4. Larry's Blues Cafe

209 First Ave S (now closed), Pioneer Square

This is where, on October 17, 2005, the skull of Ken Hamlin, a then-safety for the Seahawks (he ended his football career with the Indianapolis Colts in 2010), was badly damaged during an altercation that occurred inside and outside of Larry's Blues Cafe at 2 a.m. The man who delivered the brutal blow on Hamlin's head was a certain Terrell Milam.

## 5. Seward Park

5900 Lake Washington Blvd S, South Seattle

This is where, on October 17, 2005, the corpse of Terrell Milam was found hours after he damaged the head of the Seahawks' Ken

Hamlin. It was later concluded that the death was unrelated to the Pioneer Square assault. Milam was just having one of those nights that become your last night on earth.

## 6. Canterbury

534 15th Ave E, Capitol Hill

The movie *Fences*, directed by Hollywood hunk Denzel Washington, was written by the late, great African American playwright August Wilson. He certainly wrote parts of the script at this bar, Canterbury, and also at Caffe Ladro on 15th Avenue.

## 7. Downtown Tree

Fourth Ave and Stewart St, downtown

For 25 hours on March 22, 2016, the tall evergreen on Fourth Avenue was the most popular tree in America. It trended on Twitter. Why? Because a man climbed to the top of it and refused to come down. He also did his business up there, and he demanded the emergency professionals fetch him a packet of Camel Crush cigarettes. He became known to the world as Man in Tree.

## 8. Westlake Park

Downtown

During a Social Security and Medicare rally on August 8, 2015, Bernie Sanders lost the mic to two Black Lives Matter activists, Marissa Johnson and Mara Willaford. The disruption went viral, the videos and images showed a pissed Sanders and the black activists getting booed by Sanders's white fans. On April 6, 2016, one of the BLM activists, Johnson, accused the famous rapper and Sanders supporter Killer Mike (Run the Jewels) of gaslighting her on Twitter. Killer Mike didn't win that Twitter battle.

## 9. Escala

1920 Fourth Ave, downtown

This is where the 27-year-old fictional billionaire Christian Grey lives and does his nasty stuff in the movie *Fifty Shades of Grey*.

## 10. Nowhere (Or Somewhere in the Air)

You will not find anywhere in Seattle the location of the view from Frasier Crane's apartment in the 1990s sitcom *Frasier*. The view dramatically changes from window to window and room to room. Those who tell you Frasier's apartment building is on Queen Anne Hill are pulling a fast one on you. No one knows exactly where the place is supposed to be.

## 11. Grandview Plaza

4528 Eighth Ave NE, University District

In April 30, 1997, Layne Staley, the lead singer of Alice in Chains, purchased unit 5C in Grandview Plaza, a five-story condominium



ANDREW NILSEN

building in the University District. It was the beginning of his end. On April 5, 2002, Staley died here. Because of his extreme isolation, he spent two weeks decomposing in unit 5C.

## 12. Lake Washington

Medina

On June 4, 1999, Charles Mudede heard the late Richard Harris, who played Professor Albus Dumbledore in the first two *Harry Potter* movies, say, upon seeing Bill Gates's Medina mansion during a narrated cruise of Lake Washington: "That man. That man is a genius."

## 13. Elliott Bay

West side of town

At the end of the 2016 Netflix documentary *Amanda Knox*, the woman who was twice convicted in Italy for the 2008 murder of British student Meredith Kercher, and had those

convictions overturned, Amanda Knox, is shown taking a ferry across Elliott Bay. She is headed to Bainbridge Island. She looks very moody. She is obviously reflecting very deeply on the spectacular events in her life. The terminal for the Bainbridge ferry is at the end of Yesler Way.

## 14. Ezell's Famous Fried Chicken

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Here you will find a dated picture of Oprah Winfrey on the wall. Why? Because in the 1990s, the talk-show host was a super fan of the fried chicken. She loved it so much, she regularly had it flown to Chicago. In 1990, she flew Ezell's employees to Chicago to cater her birthday. This is what Winfrey wrote on the picture of her that hangs on Ezell's wall like a shrine: "I don't know what I like more—the chicken or the sweet potato pie. The food is something special." ■

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## NEW TO TOWN

# Advice to Newcomers from Newcomers

People Who've Lived Here a Year Tell Newbies Where to Go, Where to Eat, and How to Survive Seattle's Winters

**T**he *Stranger* staff has written a version of this guide many times. There are the places that we prefer to go to eat and drink, the secret spots we'd recommend to visiting friends who want something less touristy, and the advice we'd dish out for surviving the six interminable gray months called winter. But, we thought, what would people who've been here a year recommend to new arrivals? We thought, perhaps, that the newcomers would be totally off base and name really lame places, cite Starbucks as their favorite coffee shop, and tell people to hang out at Pike's Place or party on Cap Hill. (Editor's Note: It's  *fucking Pike Place Market and Capitol Hill, or "The Hill," never Cap Hill. Stop calling it that right now.*)

But we were pleasantly surprised. Most of you came through with solid recommendations. We discovered that you like to eat (god, do you like to eat) more than you like to party, but when you do, you know where to go (Pony, Cha Cha, Kremwerk, Re-bar). You know a couple of off-the-beaten-path places we didn't even know about, and most of you know better than to name Starbucks as Seattle's best coffee. As for the winters, a few of the Midwesterners are laughing... for now. We'll check back on you next year.

**Adam Rakunas, 42, stay-at-home parent and science-fiction novelist, moved here September 2015**

## Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Whichever one has a taco truck parked in it.

## Best restaurants and what to order?

Rumba, jerk chicken salad; Cafe Soleil, ginger shrimp; 2 Doors Down, veggie 420



GRACE RAKUNAS

burger; Seattle Deli, any banh mi and egg rolls; the barbecue place on Cherry next to Garfield Community Center, the brisket; the Garage, the fancy-ass poutine (and, yes, I know every Canadian will scream "That's

not poutine!") You guys have socialized medicine, give us this while our country implodes, okay?).

## Best bars and clubs?

I'm a boring married guy, so I like a place where I can get a beer and play video games with my kid. Chuck's Hop Shop is perfect for that, especially on a night with a good food truck parked in front. Boring married guys of Seattle: Come to Chuck's.

## Best coffee?

Hi Spot Cafe, Verite Coffee, and Cortona Cafe.

## What are some secret spots that no tourist would ever know about?

The Rainier Beach playfield.

## What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

The public schools are a mess because the state's government is a mess. All the clichés about coffee are true. The city's explosive growth means that every place you love will probably vanish in a few years. People keep voting for Goodspaceguy and will continue to do so because ha-ha the republic is dead.

## How do you get through Seattle winters?

Running, coffee, and tacos.

**Nathan Liechty, 25, customer service and repairs at Cascade Designs, moved here October 2016**

## Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Right now it's West Seattle. After six years of living in small towns in Eastern Washington, I wasn't ready for all the shenanigans of Capitol Hill or Ballard. I just wanna eat good food, look at mountains/waves, and go to bed at 9 on weekdays. And some weekends.



## Best restaurants and what to order?

Little known place called the Costco deli. I dig the neobrutalist decor

and putting a touch of bread under the cheese wall they call pizza was an inspired touch. Solid food value. Also, the pork banh mi at Saigon Deli in the Central District or Beacon Hill or Issaquah or whatever the fuck it is. [Editor's Note: He probably means the International District.]

## Best bars and clubs?

I'm too poor for that shit. I like light beer on porches. BYOCOZY.

## Best coffee?

Slate. But the homer in me also says anywhere serving Olympia Coffee Roasting Company beans.

## What are some secret spots that no tourist would ever know about?

I recently learned that every public street that ends at the water is mandated to have public access. There are some gems of little beaches and swimming holes to be found.

## What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

How to get off the West Seattle Bridge.

## How do you get through Seattle winters?

Winter used to be the worst, particularly when I lived in a 2,000-person town in Eastern Washington that didn't really have public gathering spaces. Now that I'm in Seattle,

and on any given night of the week I can go and find people to drink/bullshit/flirt/ski with, winter is no problem. People are there, go find them and do fun things with them. Also, nothing in the world is better than escaping an inversion weather pattern. When the valleys are bone-cold and filled with fog, finding a way to pop out on a ridge top to bright sun and 15-degree-warmer weather is blissful. Go ask [meteorologist] Cliff Mass about it.

**Gabriel Silberblatt, 27, urban planner, moved here June 2016**

## Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Capitol Hill because it is walkable, has good transit, and I live here without a car.



## Best restaurants and what to order?

Monsoon, wokked noodles.

## Best bars and clubs?

Seattle's hottest club is... the Olympic Sculpture Park.

## Best coffee?

Cafe Barjot.

## How do you get through Seattle winters?

Vitamin D gummies.

**Christie Coyle, 29, record sales, moved here May 2015**

## Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Wallingford—fun, low key, good food, and good bars.

## Best restaurants and what to order?

Restaurant Roux, fried oysters; Plaka Estiatorio in Ballard, literally anything; Taqueria El Sabor for tacos or you are crazy.



## Best bars and clubs?

Waterwheel Lounge, Toronado, Shorty's, Alibi Room, Hellbent Brewing—

all of these bars make strangers feel welcome.

## Best coffee?

Starbucks.

## What are some secret spots that no tourist would ever know about?

Kirkland has some awesome parks and bars. Just a little bit of a hike.

## What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

Don't drive anywhere from 3 to 6 p.m. And say thank you.

## How do you get through Seattle winters?

Just a good jacket.

**Donna Ippolito, 46, technical program manager, moved here March 2016**

## Best neighborhood in Seattle?

I really like Pioneer Square—near the water, and a nice mix of posh and grit.



## Best restaurants and what to order?

Altura, squid ink pasta; Staple & Fancy, anything.

## What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

Traffic is worse than you can imagine.

## How do you get through Seattle winters?

I still have flashbacks of Chicago winters. This is just fine.

**Treva Sharee Bergem, 22, teacher, moved here August 2016**

## Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Pike's Market, aka downtown. Always something to do, pretty flowers to smell, and interesting things to see.



## Best bars and clubs?

Unicorn/Narwhal or Purr Cocktail Lounge. Unicorn is funny but always packed, while Purr is more

traditional. The Unicorn has a dildo claw machine. EPIC!!!

## How do you get through Seattle winters?

Coats and umbrellas.

**Claire Bramil, 42, worker's comp consultant, moved here April 2016**

## Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Cap Hill is fun for bars and nightlife, but I love my quiet and diverse Beacon Hill digs.

## Best restaurants and what to order?

Anything lemon-grass at Tamarind Tree, sandwiches at the Honeyhole, and

anything at Roti Cuisine of India or Travelers Thali House. ►



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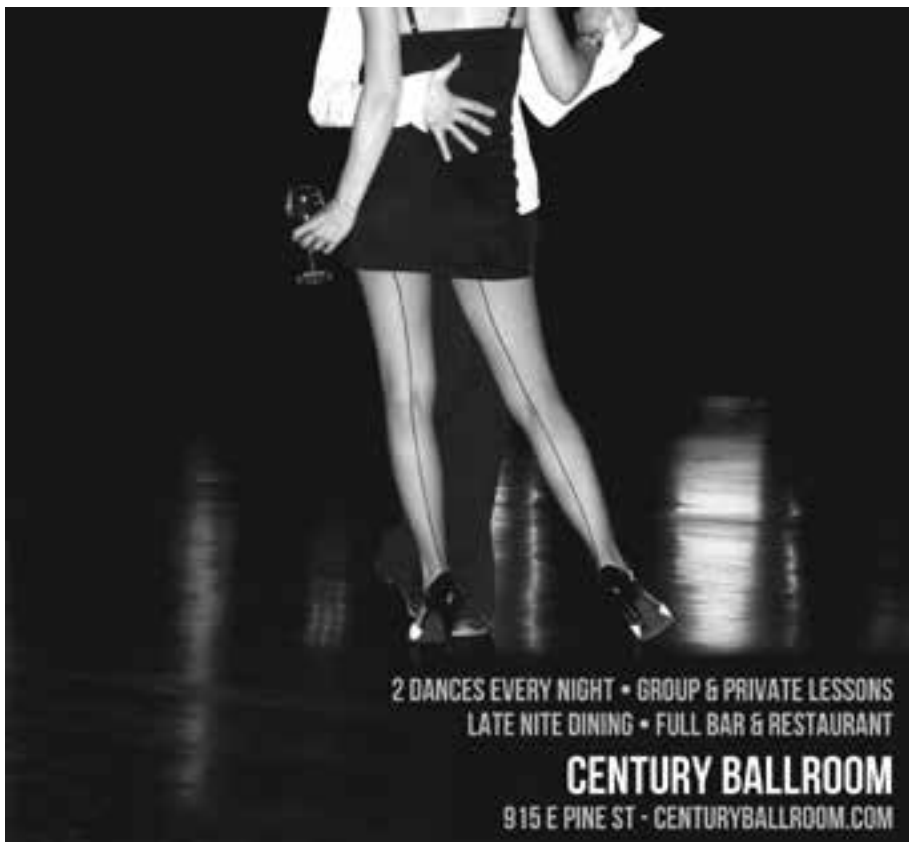
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### Best bars and clubs?

Re-bar is my favorite for dancing. Sunday nights is Flammable, and dancing my ass off surrounded by sweaty shirtless gay boys makes this lesbian's heart happy!

### Best coffee?

The Station on Beacon Hill. They are friendly and make a mean cup of bean!

### What are some secret spots that no tourist would ever know about?

I'm pretty sure you're supposed to keep those secret, so they don't get overrun with tourists.

### What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

I had no idea that it got so cold here. I moved from Ohio and was dreaming of a wet but snow-free winter. Fail! I also was warned about the "Seattle Freeze," but I have had no trouble building a new crew of amazing friends here.

### How do you get through Seattle winters?

Booze? So far, I'm slogging through by forcing myself to go out with friends, Netflix, and yes... booze. It hasn't been so bad so far, but I know I will get cabin fever at some point. I hear the flowers start blooming in February!

**Heather Stiles, 41, social services, moved here about a year ago**

### Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Pioneer Square—it's beautiful. Public transportation is never more than a couple of blocks away, and while

## What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

Traffic is worse than you can imagine.



it's close to everything, by 11 p.m. it's mostly quiet, unless it's a game day.

### Best restaurants and what to order?

Food trucks in Occidental Park are the best for lunch. Fish and chips, buttermilk

battered rabbit, banh mi, Chicago style pizza, and on and on. For dinner I'm partial to Cantina Lena before heading to Cinerama for a movie, or Poquitos for dinner before a show at Neumos. Talarico's in West Seattle has the best slice of pizza and great karaoke.

### Best bars and clubs?

Whisky Bar in Belltown is lovely for sitting and chatting. Flatstick Pub is great to watch a game and/or get in a round of mini golf while drinking local beers and ciders. The Bar Shop/Trinity Nightclub is lovely for craft cocktails, atmosphere, and dancing.

### Best coffee?

Zeitgeist Coffee.

### What are some secret spots that no tourist would ever know about?

The waterfall garden at Second and Main is a great place to have lunch or just sit and read a book.

### What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

Avoid Third Avenue altogether if possible.

### How do you get through Seattle winters?

Hot chocolate, scarves, and flannel sheets. Spending time with friends and getting as much sun as possible during daylight hours helps to keep the seasonal depression at bay.

**Emily Bright, 24, retail marketing/visuals, moved here January 2016**

### Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Ballard. It's quiet(er), and you can spend all day weaving up and down the streets, hitting



up some happy hours, and finding little trinkets along the way.

### Best restaurant and what to order?

Art of the Table for a special occasion, Fogon for a cheap and generous happy hour, Dino's

Tomato Pie for a quick slice or late night pizza with friends, Fonda la Catrina for dinner (drinks are spot on and so are the chips and guacamole while you're waiting), Paseo for a killer sandwich at lunch, and the Wandering Goose for brunch.

### Best bars and clubs?

Sun Liquor is a good one for mixed drinks and small neighborhood thrills, Peddler

Brewing Company for a good beer and trivia combo, Cha Cha Lounge if you're trying to get a little crazy and prey on the drunk, and Hellbent Brewing Company for all of your dog watching/food truck/creepy Lake City needs.

### Best coffee?

Seattle Coffee Works.

### What are some secret spots that no tourist would ever know about?

The Pink Door. (It may be in Post Alley, but most people are too shy to investigate the unmarked entrance.)

### What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

Lake City is not cool. (Also, short-term leases are a great decision if you're blindly moving to a new city.)

### How do you get through Seattle winters?

Slap a rain jacket on, and laugh.

**Nora Stone, 28, preschool teacher/nanny, moved here August 2016**

### Best neighborhood in Seattle?

Ballard. Partly because I'm biased since it's the only place I've lived so far! But I truly enjoy the history, the independent streak, the farmers market, and the distinct character—

it's a little town within a city!

### Best restaurants and what to order?

The best places I've eaten are probably Tavolata Capitol Hill (linguine nero), Coastal Kitchen (it was a specials week and I don't remem-



ber but it had fish and mashed potatoes and fried egg), El Borracho Ballard (el cheapo and the duck burrito, sue me), the Hi-Life (cleanup on aisle 12), Scooter's (bacon cheeseburger), Witness (hushpuppies, poutine, pulled pork sliders), Brass Tacks (beet salad and chicken and waffles), and the 5 Point (brass monkey and the burger with beets and a fried egg).

### Best bars and clubs?

I love Olaf's in Ballard and Flip Flip Ding! in Georgetown, because I've recently

fallen in love with pinball. Flatstick Pub is awesome. I'm not really a club person.

#### Best coffee?

Royal Drummer in Ballard.

#### What are some secret spots that no tourist would ever know about?

I still feel like a tourist a lot of the time! I mentioned Olaf's already. I like the waterfall garden park in Pioneer Square (kinda touristy, though). Fantagraphics Bookstore (and Georgetown in general) feels off the beaten path. Emerald City Supporters and the soccer weirdos of Seattle (not a spot, but "no one likes us / we don't care") have been incredibly welcoming to me as a newcomer.

### Best restaurants and what to order?

Little known place called the Costco deli. I dig the neobrutalist decor and putting a touch of bread under the cheese wall they call pizza was an inspired touch. Solid food value.

#### What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

The sun never shines from late October through at least April. (I'm guessing? When will the fucking sun come back to us?) [Editor's Note: Maybe in July, if we're lucky.]

#### How do you get through Seattle winters?

Whiskey. Getting outside during the day as much as I'm able. Wine. A sun lamp. Treadmills and more whiskey. Working with preschoolers.

#### Natalie Murphy, 20, line cook, moved here November 2016

#### Best neighborhood in Seattle?

The ID for Uwajimaya, low rent, limited man buns, close access to waterfront, and Uwajimaya.



#### Best restaurants and what to order?

Restaurants are expensive, so that's tough, but Lost Lake and Oddfellows in Cap Hill are brunch kings for sure.

#### Best coffee?

Seattle/Ballard Coffee Works.

#### What are some secret spots that no tourist would ever know about?

The gum wall and the Space Needle! Kid-ding! The stairs on Galer Street and Queen Anne in general near where I work, the site of the Wah Mee massacre in the ID, the mesmerizing bike polo matches off Broadway.

#### What are some things you know now but didn't know then?

Driving down Boren or any street with streetcar tracks is a bitch in a small vehicle. The little papers they give you on the bus are for transfers. The neighborhoods are distinct, and crossing any type of bridge constitutes a road trip.

#### How do you get through Seattle winters?

Tears of joy. I lived in Minnesota and Alaska last winter. ■

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## NEW TO TOWN

# How Long Do You Have to Live Here Before You Can Bitch About Seattle's Most Annoying Qualities?

The Rent Is Too Damn High, Amazon Is Ruining Seattle, and *The Stranger* Sucks

BY STRANGER STAFF

**W**e're jaded. Most of us have been here for at least 10 years; some of us are from Seattle and have watched it go from a sleepy little fishing village to a city overrun with grunge wannabes wearing flannel. (Okay, every single word of that sentence is a flaming cliché.) But there are certain self-evident truths to living in Seattle in 2017—among them, the rent is too damn high, and that's the newcomers' (your) fault, and the construction is causing traffic jams and demolishing the character of the city. How long do you have to live here before you can bitch about these things? For most of these problems, not long, it turns out.

## Rent

If you are an educator, a service-industry employee, a nonprofit administrator, a social worker, or anyone else devoting their lives to helping others, then you can start complaining about the cost of rent the second you open the Craigslist page for Seattle "apts / housing" and see a charming 450-square-foot barf bag going for \$1,250 plus utilities. The \$1,000 studios of today are the \$750 studios from six years ago, and while their price has risen over the years, nothing about their innards has changed. If you manage to score a place in an area like Capitol Hill, you can still wake to find a dead rat floating in your bathroom toilet. You're just paying way more for the experience than you would have a decade ago. But you'll find more life in a dead rat than in the brushed-cement hallways of the newer buildings going up around town, so pick your poison. If you make more than \$75,000 per year, you can complain about rent only on other people's behalf and are required to spend your free time supporting the arts and attending city council meetings advocating for more low-income housing, you lucky duck. Also, I'm single. Call me ;) **RICH SMITH**



a car so you can get around, just kill that plan quick. But if you already have a car, know that it's in a city that can't handle it. Only a month is needed for a person to have a pretty good idea of our traffic situation. And once you have that idea, you have every right not only to complain bitterly about it but also to help the city fix it. If you can, always try to use other forms of transportation. **CHARLES MUDEDE**

## Newcomers

The way Seattle transplants talk about Seattle newcomers has gotten increasingly hostile and weird in the past couple of years. Time was when people from here would snub you for a minute because you didn't know how to salt a fish like their mormor or whatever, but that was more a reaction against the pernicious influence of fancy city ways than anything else. And to be fair: The people who lived here for generations before Sub Pop, Starbucks, Microsoft, and *Forbes* magazine dragged Seattle into the 20th century may have had a legitimate beef. But to hear people who've lived here less than a decade bemoan the colonization of their neighborhoods by people who have lived here less than a year is chilling. A good first principle is this: If you haven't lived here for at least 10 consecutive years, best shut up about everything. But here's another thought: Compare the way you talk about newcomers to the way the Trump administration and its idiot supporters talk about immigrants. Is there ANY similarity? If yes, change

the way you think and talk. Cities are built by, for, and from newcomers. It can't be otherwise. **SEAN NELSON**

## Construction

Cranes as far as the eye can see, blocked sidewalks hither and yon, jackhammer percussion as the new Muzak—welcome to Seattle, newcomer! You're part of the reason why everyone around here is so stressed. Seattleites are dealing not only with rising rents but also increasing noise pollution and traffic rerouting. With the city under chronic construction due to our booming tech companies' need to hire tens of thousands of new employees, Seattle is perpetually tearing shit down and building new shit. It may be an awesome time to be a manufacturer of hard hats, but for folks who live in the 206, it presents a fertile landscape for complaining about all this ~!@#%\$^&

## Traffic

Not too long ago, the head of the Seattle Department of Transportation, Scott Kubly, told MyNorthwest.com that the city can't handle any more cars. And in the manner of a man on his knees with clasped hands, he begged the people of this rapidly growing metropolis to cut back "on their time behind the wheel." Yes, it's that bad here. So if you are planning to buy



KELLY O

construction. However, there is a protocol about this sacred rite of passage. You can't just start bitching before you've even changed your license plates. You have to earn the right to gripe. And that means living in this tech-bro mecca for at least 18 months. That's just long enough to lose your old city's stench and to accrue the righteous indignation necessary to articulate your rage properly. We'll let you know ASAP if that time frame changes. **DAVE SEGAL**

## Winter Weather

Immediately. Once you have lived here through three weeks of nonstop gray and drizzle, you are allowed to complain. It's terrible. Don't let anyone try to tell you "it's not that bad." You are not getting any vitamin D, and that makes you more susceptible to illness. Lack of sun makes a lot of people sad, literally. East Coasters who brag in November that "it's not that bad" haven't yet done the six-month stint of short days and no light. Think you're so tough? You'll be curled up in a ball by the end of January screaming for light, any light. When the sun finally appears, you'll behave just like the people in the *Portlandia* skit running toward the bright light in the sky and shedding clothes even if it's 50 degrees out. **TRICIA ROMANO**

## Beloved Businesses Going Out of Business

News that a beloved old Seattle bar, restaurant, bookstore, movie theater, or coffee shop is going out of business is commonplace now—maybe not quite on par with the news of dead rock stars, but pretty frequent. The standard response, on social media in particular, is an anguished "No!" followed by a personal anecdote about how much the person used to patronize

this business, followed by the constant refrain: "What is happening to this city!?" Well, what is happening to this city is what happens to all cities, everywhere in the world: a constant churning of people, products, desires, tastes, and money. Sometimes that means we lose our favorite shops, which is a bummer, to be sure, but surely you understand how commerce works, right? No matter how long you've lived here, a good question to ask when a beloved old business goes under is this: Have I patronized this business more than once in the past year? If the answer is no, then YOU are what is happening to this city. If the answer is yes, then by all means, bitch away, if you must. **SEAN NELSON**

## The Stranger

You can start complaining about *The Stranger* as soon as you read or even just hear about *The Stranger*—we're never going to be better than that moment. And though it's not my fault exactly, comments from internet dwellers indicate that we're getting worse with every passing word, and these are my words, so I'm going to claim responsibility for the next 83 words or so and then it's somebody else's problem. But beware, all you Slog commenters and Facebook hoi polloi who "continue to follow *The Stranger* to see just how terrible the writers can get" or are just generally nostalgic for a time when you, too, were younger and cooler—I used to be just like you. I moaned dramatically about the constant use of the passive aggressive voice, the smug attitude toward newcomers... And look at me now, writing smug shit to newcomers! You're part of a grand 25-year tradition of bitching about this paper while continuing to read it. You're one of us now. Welcome. **JENNIFER CAMPBELL**



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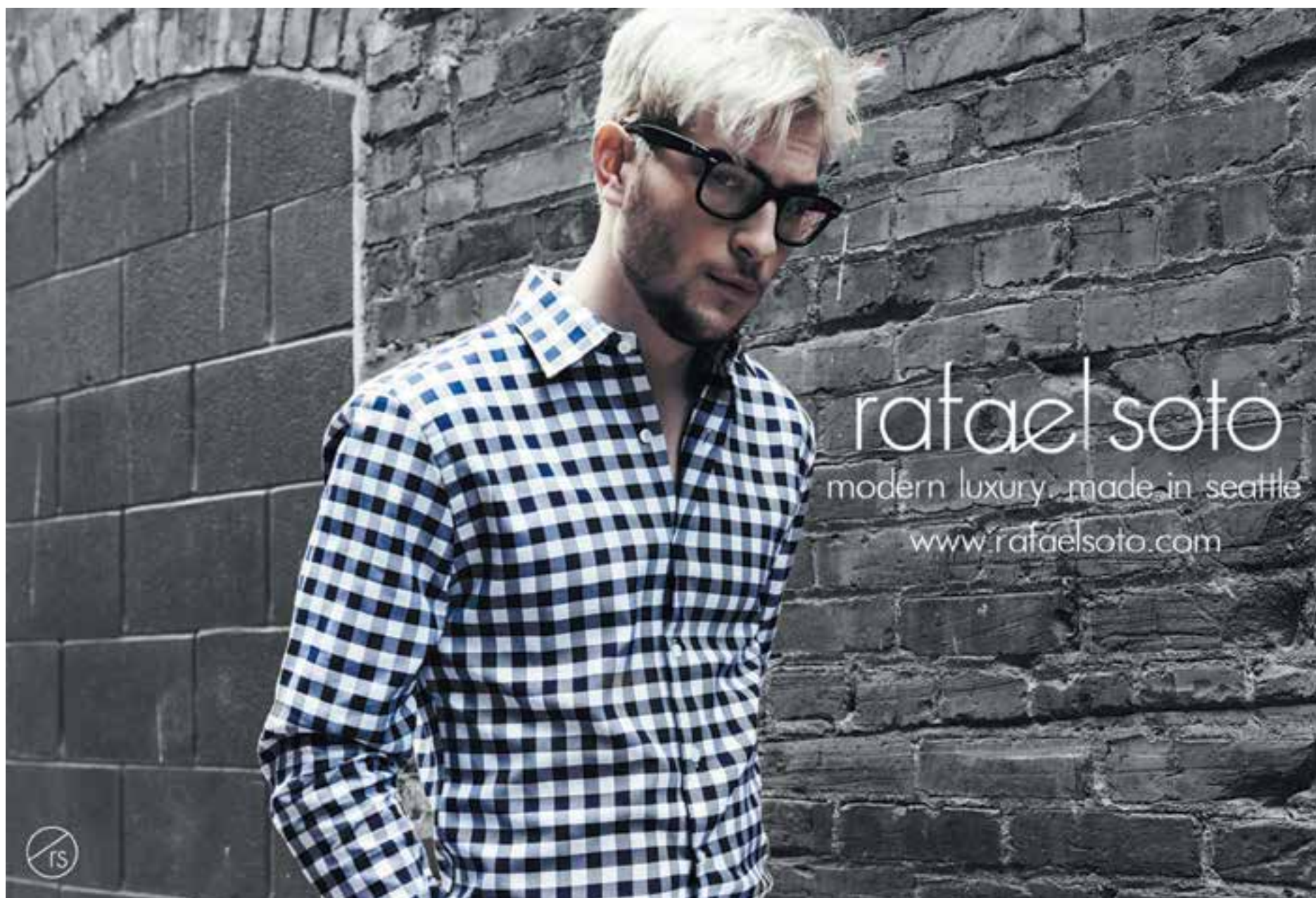
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## NEW TO TOWN

## Looking for a Place to Live?

From “aPodments” to Luxury One-Bedrooms,  
We Scoured the City to See What’s on Offer

If you’ve just arrived, you’re likely looking for a place to live. You might have heard some horror stories about the high rents in Seattle, and they are mostly true. Most landlords ask for first and last month’s rent and a security deposit, but a new law has at least given tenants a break—many landlords must offer a payment plan for the last month’s rent and security deposit. (Take comfort in the fact that, unlike New York City, there’s no “broker fee” in Seattle.)

We visited six apartments in neighborhoods accessible by transit to see what was on offer. The apartments ranged from expensive to really expensive, and small to really small, though the quality of the units varied. We’re sorry to be the bearer of bad news here, but if you want to feel better about Seattle’s rental market, look at apartments in New York City or San Francisco for fun.

## University District

A “One Bedroom,” \$1,250,  
Norman Arms

It took hours of poring over Craigslist housing listings to find a one-bedroom apartment that could be a reasonable option—possibly affordable and passably clean-looking—for someone looking to live in the University District. I found an available spot in the Norman Arms, a four-story building five blocks from the northern tip of the University of Washington campus. A tall, smiling man in a bucket hat and baggy sweatshirt ushered me inside the building, which is built out of ornate cinder blocks and stained glass. It looked like a fortress that mated with a church. It fit in perfectly on the street of shabby apartment buildings and party-houses-to-be.

My guide was downright chipper as he walked me up the stairs to the third floor. He explained that the building was mostly home to students and one elderly woman who had lived there since 1988. The hallways of the apartment building smelled like a mix of curry and floor cleaner. He explained that the apartment I was looking at was undergoing some last-minute repairs and, as a result, would cost *just* \$1,250, a whopping \$50 less than what he originally advertised on Craigslist.

The apartment itself, despite including all utilities, was expensive for what it was. Like nearly every other place I’d ever toured in the U-District, this one had the same bruise-colored carpeting, wood laminate cabinets, and white stucco walls. And the roughly 500-square-foot unit, advertised as a one-bedroom, was more like a studio because the bedroom was sectioned off from the living space by a couple of sliding doors. My guide said that most tenants asked him to take out the doors entirely. We walked in awkward silence as he led me out of the apartment, whisked me through the downstairs coin-operated laundry room, and out a back door that led into the alley. We both knew that I wouldn’t be moving into the building. Who in their right economical mind would?



**A BARGAIN?** Norman Arms in U-District (top) and aPodments in Fremont (bottom).

As I walked down the alley of the Norman Arms building, I received a smack across the face from the universe. Just 50 feet down the alley, the sounds of a construction project rumbled. It was another cookie-cutter modern apartment building, likely with units to be rented for even more astronomical prices. The Norman Arms apartment suddenly didn’t seem so bad. **ANA SOFIA KNAUF**

## Fremont

A 150-Square-Foot Room,  
\$930, aPodment Building

Living small, aka consuming less to avoid feeding the Capitalist Machine, is a noble ideal—one that, in most cases, I would wholeheartedly support. But when it comes to living in an aPodment, I don’t care if Marie Kondo’s *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up* converted you into a born-again minimalist who keeps only the things that supposedly “fill them with joy.” You should absolutely not pay almost \$1,000 to live in the adult version of your college dorm.

For the uninitiated, an aPodment is a brand of “microhousing” apartment that has dwellings as small as 150 square feet. The buildings, many of which resemble repurposed shipping containers, began popping up in Seattle in 2009. Fremont, a neighborhood just west of the University District, is home to the Positano aPodment building.

My first stop on the tour was the building’s “lounge,” a room lined with beige leather couches that was so sterile, it could’ve been in a dentist’s office. As we walked down the hallway and up the stairs, the building manager told me that residents were sometimes inspired to decorate the lounge/waiting room for the holidays.

The actual apartment—er, aPodment—wasn’t so bad. The front door was painted a vibrant green, perhaps an attempt at distracting visitors from the blandness of the unit



PHOTOS BY ANA SOFIA KNAUF

**You should absolutely not pay almost \$1,000 to live in the adult version of your college dorm.**

itself. This apartment was a “deluxe” unit, which rented for \$930 a month. For nearly \$1,000 of my hard-earned dollars, I would get a room (optional twin-size bed provided),

a doorless closet, a half-bathroom (hair that was in the toilet included?), a kitchenette (microwave, sink, and refrigerator), an extended countertop “desk,” and a flower-box-size balcony overlooking the neighboring house and a sliver of the Seattle skyline. Down the hall

was a full-size kitchen, which was shared with other residents on the floor.

“Do people actually live here for more than a year?” I asked. Yes, my guide told me emphatically before leading me to an upstairs apartment that was renting for \$900 a month, tiny balcony not included.

These apartments were basically a half-upgrade of the dorm room I had in ►



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RICH SMITH

**JUXT** *A roof with a view.*

◀ college—same price, sans meal plan. Rather than two loft beds, I would have a “fresh” twin bed. Rather than a shared bathroom, I would have a toilet and claustrophobically small shower, both pre-littered with mystery hairs.

When you, newcomer, are so desperate for an apartment that an aPodment starts looking like the way to go, just think back to your college dorm room, shudder, and then make the smarter college-kid decision: to live in a house with other people. **ANA SOFIA KNAUF**

**South Lake Union****An “Urban One-Bedroom,”  
\$2,080, JUXT Apartments**

Two young, blond “concierges” wearing Seahawks jerseys greeted me in the lobby of JUXT, a brand-new apartment building in South Lake Union twixt a spotless Pho Cyclo restaurant and a graffiti-intensive ruin that one of the attendants called “the pit.”

One of the local sports enthusiasts would guide me through the property’s “urban one-bedrooms” and amenities as soon as she finished up some paperwork. In the meantime, I could help myself to a complimentary coffee from a full-service dispenser that was connected to a tablet. My digital barista. When I tapped the macchiato icon, steam shot forth from the swan-neck faucet, and after a few seconds, my espresso was ready. I sat with my paper cup on the modern blue couches and grinned at the lime-green throw pillows, another nod to the home team’s colors. Inspirational indie rock filled the waiting room. There were outlets everywhere. Everything was vacuumed, and nothing hurt.

Already 98 percent full, JUXT is the most successful building in SLU since its opening last May. Apartments range in size from studios to three-bedrooms. I saw three of its “urban one-bedrooms” in addition to the furnished model, and also toured the amenities, which include the “Sky Lounge,” an eighth-floor outdoor patio with a giant TV and two grills where residents can also rent paddle boards and kayaks; the “Speakeasy,” which is accessed through a false wall in the Sky Lounge and is complete with copper-top bar and era-appropriate booths; the “Game Room,” equipped with 24/7 access to Big Buck Hunter and Pac-Man; the “Secondary Lobby,” adorned with artifacts from the school building JUXT replaced; the “Fitness Center,” with towel service; the “Fancy Mailroom,” which is

web-enabled in a complex way; and the “Laptop Lounge,” which is overdetermined.

But okay, what is an “urban one-bedroom”? A studio apartment with a partitioned bedroom and a view of an inner courtyard or, with varying degrees of seriousness, Lake Union. The low-end, courtyard-window version starts at \$2,080 (577 square feet) per month. The high-end versions top out at \$2,165 and feature about 20 more square feet of space. Each apartment comes with new, futuristic washer/dryers, a beautiful dishwasher, a garbage disposal, and either light floors with dark counters or dark floors with light counters.

In the model apartment, a fedora hangs on the coat rack. Burgundies and deep blues dominate the bedroom. Fake leather-bound books rest on weak shelves. Legible jazz bleeds out of Alexa, a primitive digital servant that comes with each pad. America is great again in this glorified dormitory, and the innovations of male tech workers like those JUXT seems to be courting have made it so. **RICH SMITH**



RICH SMITH

**BILTMORE** *Classic Capitol Hill.***Capitol Hill****A 500-Square-Foot Studio,  
\$1,300, the Biltmore**

Ahhhhh, the Biltmore Apartments—a red-brick, ivy-festooned charmer located on East Loretta Place, bursting with 1920s-era charm. A place for polyamorous artists and hip couples with a lot of plants. For good measure, toss in a few old-timers who haven’t given up the cultural riches of urban life for the material comforts of the burbs. You could write your novel here, you little Woolf. And you should, if you can afford it, but you probably can’t. Unless you can. In which case, no one wants to read your novel. What a shame.

If Max, the property manager, had asked me to tell him a secret, I would have. His cool and kind demeanor projected trustworthiness as he led me through the building. ►

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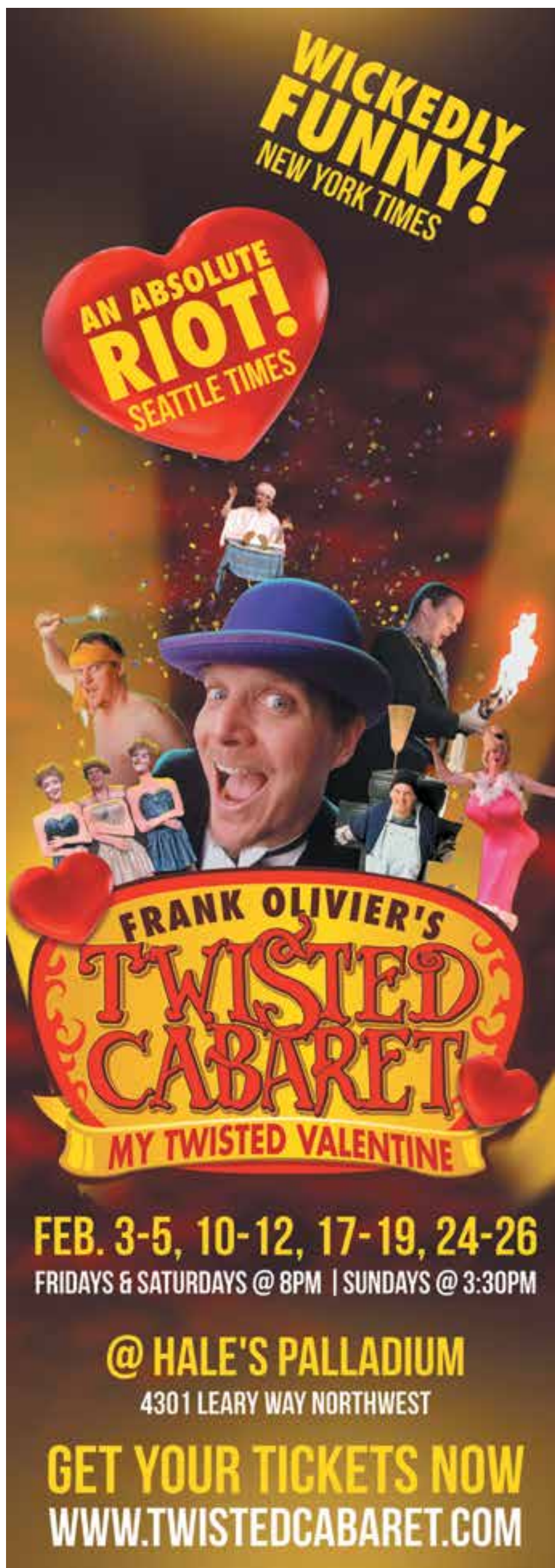
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◀ Floral wallpaper and red carpeting warm the common areas. The labyrinthine hallways smell different every 50 feet or so. Cinnamon. Slightly sweeter cinnamon. Paint? Lacquer. Pumpkin. I kept waiting for a whiff of weed, but never got one. However, was the passenger elevator adorably finicky? Yes, yes it was.

Max showed me three studios on three different floors. The fifth floor's 500-square-foot studio goes for \$1,300 plus utilities, while the third- and second-floor apartments go for \$1,250 and feature 50 fewer square feet.

Each apartment more or less looks the same. A wood-floored living area built for a bed, a Goodwill recliner, a hand-me-down love seat, and a dusty coffee table. A tiny shelf covers the steam-heat radiator; just in case you want your candles to melt. There are a handful of little storage nooks and a big walk-in closet for your mound of clothes. The lil' kitchen features limited counter space and a spot by the window for a stool and an ashtray. In the building's basement, a laundry room with six sets of washer/dryers costs you \$2.25 per device, per load, and comes equipped with the requisite soda machine.

Seven years ago, this apartment might have been \$750 a month, and you'd have been groaning about the cost of rent then, but it would have been a fair price for a place in a medium-size city.

You could live your whole life within a four-block radius. Jump out an east-facing window and land at "gay Starbucks." Spy on the brunch line at Glo's from your kitchen. Go to a literary event at Fred Wildlife Refuge. Enjoy the patio mid-summer at Captain Black's. If you need to get off Capitol Hill for a night, the light rail is a few blocks away.

All of that is great, of course. And there's still something to be said for location, location, location, but it's getting less and less convincing. **RICH SMITH**

## Beacon Hill

### A 210-Square-Foot Room, \$930, in an Apartment House

My urban philosophy is pure. The idea is to turn over as much of your life to the public as possible. You want to eat? Go to a restaurant. You want to sit on a lawn and enjoy the sun? Visit a park. You want to move around? Get an ORCA card and use the buses and light rail. The only thing an apartment should provide is a place to sleep, fuck, and clean your body. For the spiritual urbanist, the apartment is the barest of places and must show the low regard one has for private life. What matters is being in public. We want the most beautiful park trees, the most comfortable cinema seats, the most handsome buses. Whatever is in the private realm should be starved of all charm and be purely functional. The cell is the ideal apartment for the urban spiritualist.

In this respect, the rooms in the apartment building on 13th Avenue South—which is in the heart of north Beacon Hill and walking distance to Link and a block from the very busy route 36 bus—are just perfect. You can reduce your private life to almost nothing here. It has no kitchen and hardly a bathroom. And its south-facing rooms have the only thing one should want from an apartment: a nice view. (In this case, it is a view of the Beacon Hill playground.) The 210-square-foot room I was shown on a winter day by a polite and soft-spoken manager even had nice floors and its pretty little window viewed not only the playground but the entire rise and fall of our Northwest sun. A number of excellent Filipino and Mexican restaurants are not far from here. The trains at Beacon Hill Station could transport you very quickly to downtown and Columbia City. In this room, you could belong to the city.

But there is only one problem: One would



CHARLES MUDEDE

**GREENHOUSE** *Nice digs if you can afford them.*

hope that living the public life was cheaper than \$930, which is what the room I was shown costs, and that's not including the flat \$50 for utilities. So to live the life of an urban monk or nun is not deeply rewarded by the real-estate market. **CHARLES MUDEDE**

## Columbia City

### A 661-Square-Foot Studio, \$1,700, GreenHouse Apartments

Close to a light rail station, a cinema, a number of bars, and a PCC, the GreenHouse Apartments are not only in a perfect location, the building also has a simple, compact design. I would live here if I could afford to do so (the 661-square-foot one-bedroom apartment I was shown on a rainy day is going for \$1,700). GreenHouse also offers a gym, a community center, and a dazzling roof terrace with lots of plants. My friendly guide, who had just started her first day on the job, mentioned that new residents each get a planter to plant what they want.

The rooftop has a view of downtown Columbia City, downtown Seattle in the distance, and a sliver of the silvery waters of Lake Washington. What you feel here on the rooftop is that "you be in da city!" You can hear the bells of the Link trains and survey like a prince or princess the old houses and new developments of this growing part of town.

I could easily live and die here if I made that kind of money. But I don't. The place is (barely) affordable for a single person who earns more than \$60,000 a year, and that's not me. Nevertheless, this is something to consider. The location does offer a car-free life. According to AAA, when all costs of owning a car are averaged out, it claims \$725 of your income each month. One can make sense of living in a one-bedroom apartment in a place that frees one from the massive and tireless expenses of owning a car. But imagine this other kind of city, one that has apartments that are not only affordable to those who make \$35,000 a year, but also make life without a car a walk in the park. **CHARLES MUDEDE**

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# So You're New Here—Time to Get Up to Speed on Local Politics

BY HEIDI GROOVER

**A**round this time last year, I wrote this same story for people who were brand-new to town back then. Having lived here for one full year, those former newbies have now probably moved on to complaining about New Seattle and wheat-pasting “fuck you tech scum” on some just-completed apartment building. And now you're here, just like they were one year ago, new and confused about Seattle's political issues and players. Welcome!

One moment, please, while I pull up last year's version of Seattle Politics 101...

Last year, I wrote that Seattle is a “place of contradictions,” a city where some of the nation's most progressive policies get started and where we're also facing a housing crisis, income inequality, and a police force under a federal consent decree.

The bad news: Not much has changed since then.

Housing affordability, homelessness, and police accountability remain the major issues facing your new city, newbies. Below are some of the names and topics you might hear about, both in Seattle and a little farther out. To keep up, read this newspaper, the *Seattle Times* (but not the opinion pages), and local news sites like publicola.com, thecisforerank.com, seattleglobalist.com, and seattletransitblog.com. And don't be a freeloader! A strong democracy needs a strong press, and a strong press needs to be well financed. Subscribe to the *Seattle Times*, donate to a nonprofit news site, patronize the small businesses whose advertising supports this free rag, or shut your yap about how “the media” just isn't telling you what you need to know.

Promise to do that? Great, here's the quick download on Seattle politics:

**Ed Murray:** Seattle's mayor. He's a gay former state lawmaker with a bad temper and a penchant for locking big groups of people in a room, calling it a task force, and asking them to figure out how to solve the city's problems. Ed Murray is a Hillary Clinton-brand establishment Democrat who would really prefer it if you would stop pointing out that progressives have moved farther left than they were back when he was coming up in politics.

**Seattle City Council, the members are** Lisa Herbold, Bruce Harrell, Kshama Sawant, Rob Johnson, Debora Juarez, Mike O'Brien,

**Sally Bagshaw, Tim Burgess, and Lorena González:** Kshama Sawant is a socialist. Tim Burgess is a former cop and a conservative in Seattle terms.

Everyone else falls somewhere in between. Go to [seattle.gov/council](http://seattle.gov/council) to learn more about who represents your part of town, which committee each member chairs, and which issues you should be yelling at them about.

**Kshama Sawant, the Great Socialist Hope:** Kshama Sawant isn't even the most powerful

member of the Seattle City Council, but she is the one you will hear about the most. Sawant's 2013 election upended establishment Democratic politics in Seattle, forcing Dems to reconcile with a whole new rowdy wing of the left that now reliably fills city council chambers to support Sawant's proposals (generally speaking: taxing the rich, housing the poor, offering symbolic support for protest movements). Since her election, Sawant

has gotten a few pieces of legislation passed, mostly focused on tenants' rights, but has spent just as much time becoming a national spokesperson for socialism. She prominently backed Bernie Sanders and then turned on him when he endorsed Hillary Clinton, backing Jill Stein instead. Sawant protested at the Democratic National Convention and is headed to DC for an inauguration event with Stein. If you're looking for Council Member Sawant in Seattle, you're just as likely to find her in the streets as in council chambers.

**Representative Pramila Jayapal:** Pramila Jayapal is Seattle's newest member of

Congress and the first South Asian woman elected to the US House of Representatives. As part of the minority party in the other

Washington, Jayapal's new role may relegate her to more scene-making than lawmaking. But

with a background defending immigrants, a strong populist streak, and the energy of a freshman legislator on defense, Jayapal is sure to show up at the forefront of the Democrats' efforts to obstruct Trump.

**Dow Constantine:**

King County executive, silver fox, transit nerd. Like Murray, Dow Constantine is a middle-of-the-road Dem who's likely harboring ambitions to run for governor someday and governs accordingly.

**King County Council, the members are** Rod Dembowski, Larry Gossett, Kathy Lambert, Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Dave Upthegrove, Claudia Balducci, Pete von Reichbauer, Joe McDermott,

**and Reagan Dunn:** A group that controls the purse strings of some really important stuff—like criminal justice—but doesn't have as many sexy public fights as the Seattle City Council and so very few people pay much attention to them. This group, since it represents the whole region, also has some Republicans on it. Visit [kingcounty.gov/elected](http://kingcounty.gov/elected) to find out who's who, who represents you, and what they're doing over there.

**Jay Inslee:** Washington's governor. Another mainstream Democrat, Jay Inslee fancies himself the nation's greenest governor (even though most of his progressive initiatives, especially the

environmental ones, immediately get shut down by Republicans in the state legislature).

**Washington State Legislature:** A dysfunctional group of partisan children who meet annually in Olympia and can't agree on anything, including how to fund public education, which the state is currently underfunding to a criminal degree. (That's not hyperbole. The Washington State Supreme Court has ruled the state is unconstitutionally underfunding K-12 education.)

**Homelessness crisis:** About 4,500 people sleep unsheltered across King County, 3,000 of them inside Seattle. The city has poured new money into shelters and services, but the scale is far too small to meet the need. Meanwhile, city and state officials continue to “sweep” illegal homeless camps, forcing people to move from where they're camping and sometimes taking their belongings. Both the City of Seattle and King County have declared natural-disaster-style states of emergency on homelessness and asked the state and Feds for more money. So far, they haven't gotten it (and probably aren't likely to under the Trump administration).

**Anti-trans bathroom initiative:** For the second year, anti-trans bigots have filed a ballot initiative trying to gut Washington State's human-rights protections for transgender people. (In this state, we're allowed to legislate by initiative if a campaign gathers enough signatures to either send the initiative straight to the ballot or to the legislature, where it will end up on the ballot if lawmakers don't act.) A newly filed ballot initiative—which doesn't yet have a number but is called “Safety and Privacy in Public Facilities”—would repeal current state protections for trans people, allow businesses to discriminate against trans people, and require schools to maintain segregated bathrooms. The people behind this initiative will tell you it's about protecting women and girls from predators in public bathrooms. In fact, it will prevent trans people from using the public bathrooms and locker rooms that match their gender identity. The pro campaign will be gathering signatures between now and the summer. Don't sign it. Learn more from the people fighting this effort at [washingtonwontdiscriminate.org](http://washingtonwontdiscriminate.org). ■

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RAMON DOMPOR

# Welcome to Seattle! Here's How You Can Help Fight Trump

A Comprehensive Breakdown of Events Where You Can Get Involved

BY ANA SOFIA KNAUF

On January 20, Donald Trump will be sworn in as the 45th president of the United States after two years of winning white-supremacist America's heart on a platform of bigotry, misogyny, and xenophobia.

The day after Trump was elected, Seattle mayor Ed Murray (an openly gay white man) said: "Seattle remains a city guided by our values of equality, inclusion, openness, and equity. We continue to be a city that supports women. We will continue to be a city that welcomes as neighbors our Muslim brothers and sisters. And today, black lives matter. Black lives will still matter and continue to matter."

In order for Seattle, the blue heart of an otherwise purplish Washington State and your new home, to remain a bastion of progressive ideals, we need you to join the resistance. Rather than retreat to your liberal echo chamber; learn how to talk to your conservative family members. Instead of quietly sticking a safety pin on your lapel, channel your Trump despair into donating your time and money to support organizations working to ensure black lives matter; provide abortion access, and protect people who face hate crimes and possible deportation. It's time to get involved. Here are some local events to help you get started.

## Beer Trumps Hate: Hopvine's Un-Inauguration Party

Most things are better than hate, really. Hangnails, the Millennial Whoop, cigarette butts floating in a puddle... Yeah, even these are better than a nasty ol' wad of festering hate. It's just that love and beer are ESPECIALLY better; and both will be in supply at Hopvine—notably Rooftop Brewing's Love Trumps Hate IPA. Raise money for the ACLU, don't look at the TV, and have a good time. (Hopvine Pub, Fri Jan 20, 8 pm)

## Beer Trumps Hate: Inauguration Day

The Red Door will pour Rooftop Brewing's Beer Trumps Hate IPA—made with symbolically significant mosaic hops to represent "the notion that beer can be a common bond between a mosaic of different people"—and

donate your beery dollars to the ACLU of Washington. (The Red Door, Fri Jan 20)

## ConsentFest 2017: Let the Change Begin!

The Consent Academy will offer "games, education, and prizes" in the service of positive culture change. Grab a beer and meet with consent educators and activists. (Optimism Brewing, Wed Jan 25, 6–9 pm, free)

## Inauguration Day SYA Benefit Show: Tacocat, Wimps, the Black Tones

Local *Stranger* favorites Tacocat will be playing Barboza on Inauguration Day with Wimps and the Black Tones in an effort to make this day palatable in the slightest. All proceeds from the door will go to pro-abortion nonprofit #ShoutYourAbortion, with "super-special limited-edition" SYA merch sales going to #BlackLivesMatter. (Barboza, Fri Jan 20, 7 pm, \$20)

## Inauguration Day with Interesting People

On the day that Trump will be officially inaugurated, take your mind off the (too-real) issues by watching this production of *The Taming* by Lauren Gunderson, directed by Erin Murray. It sounds a bit like a political version of *Miss Congeniality*, though that's probably only because it's about Miss Georgia "taking on the American political system" the night before the Miss America pageant. (ACT Theatre, Fri Jan 20, 8–10 pm, by donation)

## KEXP Bed-In for Peace

KEXP will mark Inauguration Day with a bed-in inspired by John Lennon and Yoko Ono's famous supine protest of the Vietnam War. They have invited celebrated local artists like DoNormaal and Wimps to inspire you with live music, MCed by DJ Riz, plus a sing-along of "Give Peace a Chance" with our own Sean

Nelson. You can also meet with local representatives of Planned Parenthood, Vera Project, ACLU of Washington, TeenTix, Gender Justice League, and the Office of Arts & Culture. (KEXP, Fri Jan 20, 8–9:30 am, free)

## Meet Up for a Cause: Filmmakers and Grassroots Groups

This event will bring together filmmakers and local grassroots organizations to inspire artistic, political, and community-driven collaboration. They'll start with a happy hour at 6 p.m., then host a panel with Amy Benson, Eli Kimaro, Jill Friedberg, and Molly Michal, and end with a series of pitches from organizations to interested filmmakers. Start your next project here. (Northwest Film Forum, Wed Jan 18, 7 pm, free)

## The Pink Carpet Project

On Inauguration Day, revel in music, food, art, and performance while raising money for (and celebrating the existence of) Planned Parenthood. The Pink Carpet Project promises "burlesque performance by the inimitable J Von Stratton, inspirational words from our keynote speaker, Amelia Bonow from #ShoutYourAbortion, music by DJ Lady Coco, delicious appetizers from Madres Kitchen, cocktails by Rhino Room, and interactive art installations curated by BadWill Market and featuring various woman-owned businesses and artists. There will also be a silent auction where participating vendors will create and donate a one-of-a-kind piece towards the cause." All proceeds from ticket sales and the silent auction, plus a portion of bar profits, will go to Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest. (Rhino Room, Fri Jan 20, 7 pm, \$25)

## Protect the Sacred: Native Artists for Standing Rock

In *Protect the Sacred: Native Artists for Standing Rock*, 25 Indigenous Pacific Northwest artists chosen by Asia Tail (Cherokee Nation of

Oklahoma) exhibit their works. Proceeds go to the Standing Rock camp protesting DAPL construction. Describing the exhibition, Tail states: "*Protect the Sacred* gives voice to the diverse Urban Indian community of this region. As Native artists, we reject externally constructed expectations for people of color, who are often confined by the recognition of their ethnicity in the mainstream art world. This exhibition empowers Indigenous artists to represent themselves, whether in traditional or contemporary contexts. Through our work, we hope to showcase the complexity of our cultures and identities, and broaden perceptions of Native American art." Although the water protectors achieved an incredible victory with the permit denial, the fight is not over. So close to the inauguration, it is more urgent than ever to protect Native lands, rights, and sovereignty for future generations. (Spaceworks Gallery, Tacoma, opening reception Thurs Jan 19, 6–9 pm, through Feb 16, free)

## Presidential Inauguration Live Viewing

As per their tradition, Town Hall will host a live screening of the inauguration. They say, "Regardless of your political opinion, join us to see history being made." (Town Hall, Fri Jan 20, 8:30 am, free)

## Race for our Rights 5K

This privately organized 5K fun run/walk was set up immediately after Trump's election to reiterate the (physical, social, and political) power of women and to communicate their impassioned response to their new president-to-be. All proceeds will go to Planned Parenthood. (Magnuson Park, Fri Jan 20, 6–8 pm, \$20)

## Rainier Beach Flash Mob for Love & Diversity

Survive Inauguration Day through dance and community. Either attend a rehearsal beforehand (Wed Jan 18, 6:30–8 pm) or learn the dance via video. Then, on day one of our brave new world, wear bright colors and boogie with your fellow Rainier Beach resistants. (Rainier Beach Community Center, Fri Jan 20, 4–4:30 pm, free)

## RESIST! A Show of Burlesque, Belly Dance, and Punk Rock

They describe it as "a therapeutic night of rage, fun, music, and art." It's past Inauguration Day, and the future is one big combination of "Huh?" and "unnnngh." This bash aims to get you through it with sexy, angry togetherness. Hear music from Burn Burn Burn and F'CON, belly dance and burlesque from Magi, Betty Fish, Scandal from Bohemia, and Solange Corbeau. Plus, they'll help you figure out how to get in touch with your representatives for future activism. (Substation, Tues Jan 31, 8–11 pm, \$15)

## Resist Trump: Occupy Inauguration!

Seattle citizens are planning a mass demonstration to protest Trump's "racism, sexism, and Islamophobia." (Westlake Park, Fri Jan 20, 5–8 pm, free)


## Rock the Status Quo!

Angry feminist punk and blues for your post-Inauguration Day weekend. Heart Shaped Boxes, an all-woman Nirvana tribute band, will headline. Thursday Night Book Club's "gritty blues" and the Morning After's ferocious punk beats to follow. (Rendezvous, Sat Jan 21, 5:30–9 pm, \$8 adv/\$10 DOS)

## Rough Draft #5 Inauguration Day

I've been big-upping Rough Draft since I went to their first one and was absolutely bowled over by the ambitious, adventurous 12-course tasting menu. And the venue, and the genuine festivity, and the eclectic mix of guests, and so on ad infinitum. This one, however, is ►

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◀special. That it falls on Inauguration Day is no accident—the Rough Draft crew is donating all proceeds from the event to the ACLU as a big “fuck you” to Trump. A big, six-course, boozy fuck you that culminates in a “drink till it’s gone” after-party. It’s also at LoveCityLove, which only furthers the theme of exuberant cultural expression in the face of our nation’s dangerous flirtation with fascism. Maybe I’m not the most ardent activist, but if I can protest Cheeto Jesus with guava pork cheek and elderflower cured salmon, then enjoy a Bacchanalian art dance party, that’s how I’m going to do it. Two birds, one stone, and all that! (*LoveCityLove, Fri Jan 20, 6 pm, \$90*) **TOBIAS COUGHLIN-BOGUE**

### Salon de la Résistance: An Anti-Inaugural Ball

Fight despair with fellow resisters on Inauguration Day. Buy some cool posters at the pop-up shop: All proceeds from the shop and the bar will benefit the ACLU and El Centro de la Raza. Dress fancy (“whatever that means to you”) and prepare to be enlightened by activist Elmer Dixon and poet Elisa Chavez. Featuring DJ Gene Balk of the Emerald City Soul Club and other DJs. (*The Ruins, Fri Jan 20, 8 pm–1 am, \$35*)

### Seattle Has a Ball: A Benefit for Our Friends and Community

The crowd at Conor Byrne will spurn the coverage of the presidential inauguration in favor of live music and hits from the 1990s and aughts. This night’s proceeds will benefit the local chapters of the NAACP’s ACT-SO youth program and Planned Parenthood. (*Conor Byrne, Fri Jan 20, 8 pm–1 am, \$8*)

### Seattle United for Immigrant and Refugee Families

We’re going to go out on a limb and guess that if you’re an immigrant in America, Inauguration Day might not be an occasion for joyous festivities. The City of Seattle is here with a day-long workshop to help you apply for citizenship (noon–3 pm) and “Know Your Rights” through training sessions (3, 5, and 7 pm). Immigration attorneys will be available for free aid (3–6 pm). If you just want to be of service to immigrants and refugees, register to volunteer at the event. (*McCaw Hall, Fri Jan 20, noon–8 pm, free*)

### STILL HERE

On Inauguration Day, gather with organizers, artists, and community members to reaffirm everyone’s basic human dignity, and warm your cold heart in an atmosphere of respect and hope. They’ll have three rooms—for entertainers, accomplices, and collaborators—and you’ll have a chance to donate to local nonprofit groups. They ask just one thing of attendees: “Please acknowledge and commit to demonstrating respect for the groups of people this event is designed for—women, POC, undocumented and documented immigrants, LGB/trans/queer, disabled and differently abled people, and all marginalized, disenfranchised peoples and communities.” (*Velocity Dance Center, Fri Jan 20, 7:30 pm–1 am, \$5–\$20 donation*)

### Student Walkout on Trump’s Inauguration

High-school and college students will walk out of class on Trump’s Inauguration Day to protest bigotry and stand up for the various marginalized groups he has attacked. Their demands: “No deportations of undocumented immigrants! Black lives matter! End police brutality and mass incarceration! Unite against Islamophobia! Fight Trump’s sexism! Defend and extend reproductive rights! Tax the rich! Make college free and cancel student debt! Stop the Dakota Access Pipeline! Green jobs now! Fight discrimination and violence against the LGBTQ community!” (*Westlake Park, Fri Jan 20, noon–3 pm*)

### Truth to Power: A Night of Musical Protest and Unity

Proceeds from this show—which will feature music from locals Liam Lawe, RL Heyer & Friends, Eldridge Gravy & the Court Supreme, and Blubber—will be donated to the ACLU “to help fight the inevitable injustices and rights abuses from the incoming administration.” The organizers say this event will be a place to “discuss, educate, organize, and (of course) boogie down.” You can always count on Eldridge Gravy & the Court Supreme for a GOOD goddamn time; they never fail to brang it, swang it, and then hang it out to dry. I’d rate them as some kind of Seattle institution. Seriously. (*Lo-Fi, Sat Jan 28, 8 pm, \$10*) **MIKE NIPPER**

### Voices of a People’s History of the United States

Hear stories from history that your textbooks may have neglected, unless you had a super-cool history teacher who made you read Howard Zinn. Readers include sometime *Stranger* videaste Bret Hamil, Marcus Harrison Green, Jarrell Davis, Claudia Castro Luna, Valerie Curtis-Newton, Carlynne Newhouse, Shontina Vernon, and others. Learn about those who fought against Jim Crow and the killing and displacement of Native Americans, and celebrate early proponents of women’s rights, LGBTQ+ advancement, and the working class. (*Seattle City Hall, Fri Jan 20, noon–1 pm, free*)

### We Defy: Voices and Stories from Our Progressive Community

On Inauguration Day, Planned Parenthood will present a panel discussion on the new administration and its effect on the community going forward. Featured presenters include Sherman Alexie, Ijeoma Oluo, Sonya Renee, the ACLU, Casa Latina, One America, and Washington Conservation Voters. (*Town Hall, Fri Jan 20, 7–10 pm, \$10–\$100*)

### Weekend Wake

Capitol Cider will host a wake this weekend, presumably for the Obama administration and the values it represented, with food and drink specials, and appropriate melancholy. (*Capitol Cider, Jan 20–22*)

### What a Joke

To mark Inauguration Day, venues around the country will be hosting iterations of What a Joke: a comedy festival benefiting the ACLU. Local stars include Love Snack, Feelings, Elicia Sanchez, Wilfred Padua, and Nick Sahoyah. In addition to the comedy, you can look forward to inauguration-themed drink specials, raffles, and the warm fuzzy feeling you get knowing your bucks will go toward the ACLU. (*Rendezvous, Thurs Jan 19, 7–9 pm, \$12–\$15*)

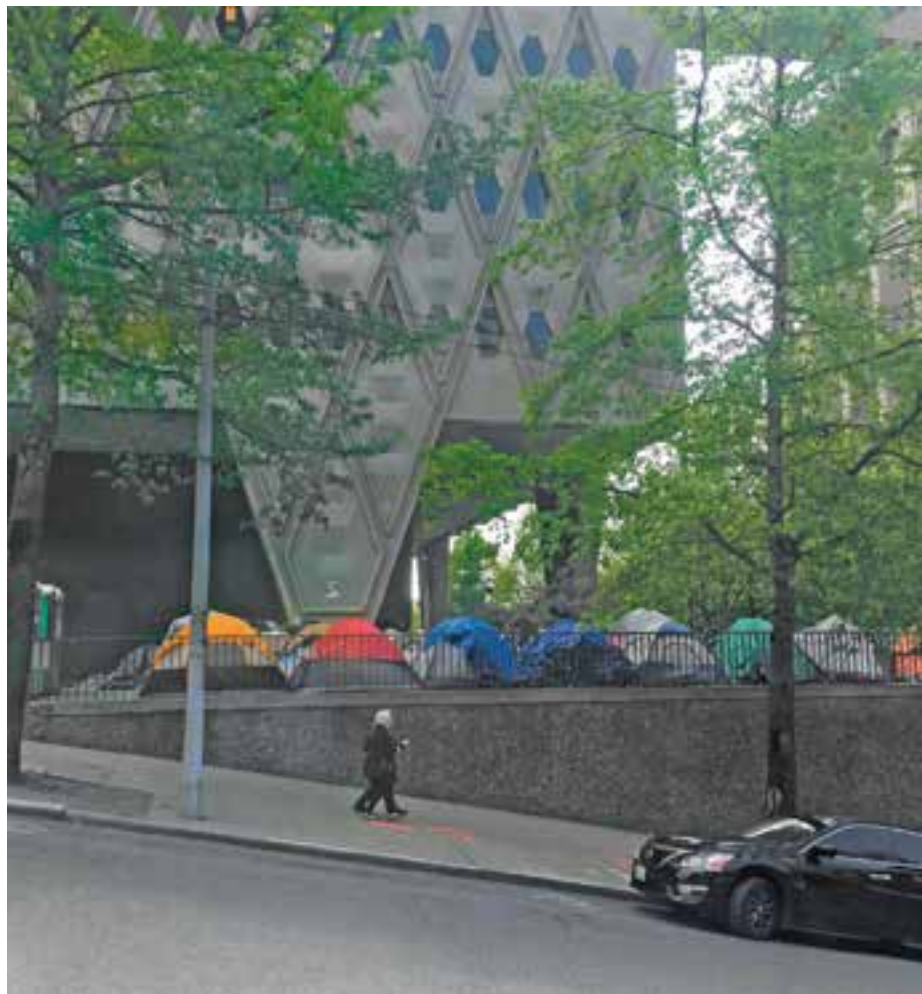
### Womxn’s March Seattle: Washington State

The day after the inauguration of Donald Trump, “ALL women, femme, trans, gender nonconforming, and feminist people (including men and boys) are invited to march [in] support for the community members who have been marginalized by the recent election.” This event will take place in solidarity with the Million Women March being planned for the same day in Washington, DC. (*Judkins Park to Seattle Center, Sat Jan 21, 10 am–4 pm, free*)

### WordsWest 22: Claudia Rowe and Anastacia Tolbert

On the week of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Inauguration Day, journalist and Pulitzer Prize nominee Claudia Rowe (*Mother Jones*, the *New York Times*, the *Seattle Times*) and local “super-shero” poet Anastacia Tolbert will appear to discuss “the consequences of ‘Dreams Deferred’” (a reference to Langston Hughes). (*C&P Coffee Company, Wed Jan 18, 7–9 pm*) ■

# NEW TO TOWN



**TENT CITY** A now gone encampment outside the King County Administration Building. JESSICA STEIN

## Not Everything You Need to Know About Homelessness, but a Start

BY SYDNEY BROWNSTONE

**W**elcome to Seattle. If you have a roof over your head, congratulations! As of a year ago, 3,000 people were sleeping on Seattle streets in the dead of winter. Like other West Coast cities, the homelessness crisis here has become so acute that Mayor Ed Murray declared a state of emergency in late 2015.

There are a number of things that various activist groups—as well as public officials—are trying to do to address the deeply intertwined homelessness and housing crises. Some of these things are really good ideas. Some of them are really bad ideas. If you live here, you now have a responsibility to pay attention to them.

**Renter Protections:** Some cities, including Seattle, have passed laws that now protect renters from discrimination based on how they pay their rent. But outside of Seattle, landlords can still reject tenants who pay with a government voucher, social security, or child support. Income discrimination is often used as a proxy for other forms of race or gender-based bigotry, and some lawmakers are attempting to pass a ban on income discrimination at the state level. E-mail your state legislators and tell them that's a good idea.

**A 24-Hour Homelessness Shelter:** This was proposed by Mayor Ed Murray last summer. "The site would be open 24 hours a day, modeled off a shelter in San Francisco, and would offer case management, showers, laundry, meals, and storage," Heidi Groover reported. "It would accept couples and groups—all efforts to address the well-documented shortcomings of the city's current shelter system."

As Groover wrote, the idea received support from city council members and advocates. One problem: It's been delayed because the city can't find a location. There are lots of complicated political reasons for that, likely reasons that start with "N" and end with "IMBYs." E-mail your local neighborhood council and ask what it's doing to encourage proposed shelter sites, as well as tent encampments, *in your neighborhood*.

**Tent Encampment Sweeps:** One of the biggest controversies about homelessness in Seattle is what the city should do about people camping illegally under overpasses, in parks, beside the freeway, etc. While the city and state sometimes force people to move along (and promise they offer services in the process), some advocates and city council members say the city's process for those so-called "encampment sweeps" is unpredictable and can result in homeless people losing their belongings and being forced from one place to another without real meaningful help.

A few city council members tried to address this last year but faced loud pushback from angry neighborhood advocates who claimed it would allow unfettered camping all over "their" parks (fact check: it wouldn't have) and basically gave up. Now the mayor is promising to change the rules that govern the sweeps to make them more "compassionate," but his office has yet to release the specifics of what they'll change. When that finally happens, expect a renewed debate on this issue and be ready to call your city council members and remind them that homeless people have to sleep somewhere. ■



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# HIGH SOCIETY

In Which David Schmader Converses with a Person and They Are Stoned



## Chasing the 9 to 5 High with Cody and Jack

BY DAVID SCHMADER

Cody and Jack are a married couple I came to know through a loose network of over-30 gay men with beards on Facebook. This sounds shallow, but even casual social media reveals a lot. Before we'd officially met, I knew Cody was an insurance professional who'd gotten a big promotion, Jack was a bureaucrat who occasionally performs burlesque, and their Central District house was almost a casualty of a flaming power line knocked out to their roof by a maintenance truck.

I also knew Cody and Jack are major culture-imbibers, with voluminous Facebook check-ins at art and performance venues. But despite their love of stoner-friendly gawk-fests—they're regular attendees at Re-bar's video collage showcase Collide-O-Scope and hosted a viewing party for the Eurovision Song Contest—they're not regular imbibers of cannabis. Cody has never tried it, while Jack is reeling from a college-era oversmoke experience. "You know that scene in *Contact* where Jodie Foster undoes her seat belt and is trapped 300 million light years from Earth? That was me," Jack tells me. "I would much rather have something more like that scene in *9 to 5*, with a munchie potluck where everything is funny."

I had my marching orders. For entry-level weed, I visited Sodo's Vela, where I announced I was seeking a beginner-friendly 9 to 5 experience and was presented with a pre-rolled joint of the strain Kriss Kross, an indica/sativa hybrid with a midrange THC level. For the munchie potluck, my husband and cohost for the night, Jake, and I walked the line between classic must-haves and personal faves, including Nacho Cheese Doritos (with their miraculous chemical molestation of human pleasure centers), Take 5 candy bars (Jake's mass-market ideal of salty sweetness), and Ellenos lemon-curd yogurt, a delight that calls up my favorite stoner-munchie story, in which a high friend devoured an entire container of the most delicious yogurt she'd ever had, only to discover that it was sour cream. If sour cream and yogurt had a baby, its name would be Ellenos.

We arrive at Cody and Jack's home in time for 4:30 p.m. nightfall. After puffing on the back porch, we hit the second-level rec room, plop ourselves on a sectional sofa, and, over a musical backdrop of Brandt Brauer Frick's DJ-Kicks mix, start gabbing. On the conversational roster: Cody and Jack's romantic history (together nine years, married in 2013), their 2016 Halloween costumes

(the duo dressed as *Jet Kiss*, the Mike Ross sculpture in the Capitol Hill light rail station), and their dog Tomato, a German shepherd mix whose favorite toy is a stuffed alligator.

As always, I ask to be alerted to first feelings of highness. "I feel nice... relaxed," says first-timer Cody, and returning-user Jack agrees. Thanks to the indica/sativa mix, our buzzes are tempered with light stupefaction. "I can't recall the words for the things," as Jack puts it.

Eventually I notice Tomato's sporadic barking at the front door. This, Cody and Jack explain, is the result of their regular house parties. In Tomato's experience, the arrival of two guests typically heralds dozens more, and her barks are for what she's sure are impending others. I suggest Jake and I sneak out the back and re-arrive at the front, to fulfill Tomato's fantasy. The idea gets some play before Jake notes that we are four adults considering putting on a show for a dog, and the plan dissolves into laughter.

Before long, Cody and Jack experience two classic high-person feelings: hunger and the desire to get a little higher. We return to the patio and then walk to Skillet, where Jack, Cody, and Jake order fried-chicken sandwiches, I order mac and cheese, and we all devour everything while discussing Christmas cooking plans (Cody's making doughnuts!) and the dog-friendly hotels of Portland (Mark Spencer!).

Then we haul ourselves back up the hill, into the house, and onto the sofa, where we point our high eyes at *Big Business*, the 1988 comedy starring Lily Tomlin and Bette Midler in dual roles as mismatched identical twins. While the script allegedly draws inspiration from Mark Twain, Aesop, and Shakespeare, the result seems more like a straight-to-video Olsen twins project, but it's not without its pleasures, most notably the face of Bette Midler, which never makes a single expression when seven will do and essentially turns the film into a 97-minute marathon of neck-up Jazzercise.

After the credits roll, Jake and I waft back home, where I find an e-mail from Jack. "That was fun. I think a lot of the paranoia and fear I'd been carrying around since my bad experience 20 years ago has been replaced with curiosity and, honestly, relief." ■


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# SAVAGE LOVE

Risky Business BY DAN SAVAGE

About a year ago, I was pretending to read my boyfriend's mind and jokingly said, "You want to put it in my ear." Since then, I have seen references to ear sex (aural sex?) everywhere! There's even a holiday ("Take It in the Ear Day" on December 8), and I was reading a book just now in which the author mentions how much she hates getting come in her ear. So while I am honestly not trying to yuck someone's yum, I do have two questions. First, is this really a thing? And second, how does it work? I mean, I like it when my boyfriend kisses my ears, but I don't think I'd get that hot from him putting his penis there. It just seems loud. Can you enlighten me?

An Understanding Requested  
About Listeners

Ear sex is a thing. But we need to distinguish between auralism, AURAL, and an ear fetish. People into auralism are sexually aroused by sounds—it could be a voice or music or sex noises. (Sex noises can arouse almost anyone who hears them, of course, so technically we're all auralists.) An ear fetish, on the other hand, is a kind of partialism, i.e., a sexual interest in one part of the body (often parts not typically found in pants). A foot fetish is a partialism, for example, as is an ear fetish or an armpit fetish.

Most ear fetish stuff—including the thousands of ear fetish videos on YouTube—is about tugging, rubbing, or licking someone's ear and not about fucking someone in the ear or coming in someone's ear canal. Dicks don't fit in ear canals, and blasting semen into someone's ear could cause a nasty ear infection. So both are risky practices best avoided—but, hey, if PIE (penis in ear)

sex is actually a thing, I invite any hardcore ear kinksters out there reading this to write in and explain exactly how that works.

**I have a particular fetish** that I've never fully disclosed to anybody. My ultimate fantasy is to be stripped of my assets by a woman and then (most importantly) made homeless. I like dressing up dirty—face, clothing, and all—and even going so far as to look through garbage cans. My question is this: Is it moral to live out this fantasy, considering the plight of homeless people?

Desiring Interesting Role-Play  
That's Yucky



I'm not gonna lecture you about how homelessness is a tragedy for individuals and a national crisis that the administration of Orange Julius Caesar is unlikely to prioritize. Just like AURAL, DIRTY, I'm not here to yuck anyone's yum. But this is definitely a fantasy—morally speaking—that can't be fully realized.

You're turned on by the thought of a cruel woman taking absolutely everything from you and leaving you homeless? Great. Find a woman who's into findom (financial domination) and give her some or most of your money and play dress up on the weekends and sleep in her backyard. But don't give her *everything* and actually wind up homeless, DIRTY, because then you'll wind up competing for scarce shelter beds and other resources with men, women, and *children* who didn't choose to become homeless because it made their dicks hard. There's nothing moral about making their plight worse than it already is.

Finally, DIRTY, while you're able to fantasize

about being stripped of your assets and left homeless, there are real people out there who have nothing and don't find anything about being homelessness arousing. Want to be poorer? Donate a big chunk of your assets to homeless shelters and/or nonprofits that assist those experiencing homelessness in your area.

**I've never admitted this to anyone:** The idea of committing suicide turns me on sexually. I recognize how crazy that is, and I want to emphasize that I'm not suicidal. I'm not depressed, I love living, and despite this sexual impulse, I don't want to kill myself. I'm turned on by the fantasy of hanging myself, but that's not really how I want my life to end. (To be clear: Autoerotic asphyxiation gets a lot of press, but that's not the situation here. Asphyxiation itself isn't my kink, and other methods of committing suicide also turn me on.) My question is this: Given that I don't want these fantasy scenarios to ever become reality, should I indulge the fantasy through healthy, safe play with a responsible partner or should I try to repress it and shut it down? I'm worried that if I indulge the fantasies through safe scenarios, I might reach a point where the safety precautions interfere with the thrill. On the other hand, I know that trying to repress sexual desires is a hopeless endeavor and trying to keep these fantasies in check might result in a scenario where they boil over and I end up engaging in riskier behavior than I would have otherwise.

Horny And Nervous Guy's Endangering Deeds

You're not actually suicidal, right? I know you already said you weren't, HANGED, but I want to double-check. Because fantasizing about killing yourself—for whatever reason—technically counts as suicidal ideation. If you or anyone else reading this is contemplating suicide, please reach out to someone you trust. Ask for help. Stick around. (Some resources: National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255; the Trevor Project, 1-866-488-7386; Trans Lifeline, 877-565-8860.)

Okay, HANGED, I'm going to take you at your word: You love being alive and don't actually want to kill yourself any more than a sane person into

Master/slave role-play actually wants to own a human being or be enslaved. But while I agree that repressing sexual desires is a hopeless endeavor, HANGED, "can't be repressed" isn't the only factor we have to take into consideration as we contemplate acting on our sexual fantasies. There are two other important considerations (at least!): Can the act be performed consensually? Can the act be enjoyed with minimal risk of permanent harm?

Your kink can definitely be performed consensually, and there are ways to minimize the risks of harm—and I'm not talking about only sticking your head in an Easy-Bake Oven. I'm talking about finding a responsible/indulgent/macabre partner who's willing to indulge/assist/monitor. Yours is a kink that can be explored only during supervised play, otherwise you run the risk of fucking up and accidentally hanging yourself. You can never do this solo. So if you don't have a responsible and unflappable partner, HANGED, you'll have to stick to your right hand and your imagination.

**Bi guy here, who's way** okay with the use of "fag" or "faggot" in the right context. And what FAGS wrote in about last week—a boyfriend who wants to be called "faggot" while she talks negatively about his cock—is absolutely the right context. There's an evolution in meaning taking place right now, Dan. These days, "fag" is less about sexual preference and more about sexual submission. A submissive man? Gay or straight? He's a fag. I've been serviced by both hetero and homo faggots and have enjoyed myself, as have the fags who sucked my cock or did my housework. Go onto Tumblr and see for yourself. (Also: I have a sneaky suspicion that sparks would fly if FAGS raised the subject of cuckoldry with her boyfriend.)

Bi Guy Into Faggots

Thanks for sharing, BGIF. ■

On the Lovecast: Trump! What's up with the piss thing and how to fight him. Listen at [savagelovecast.com](http://savagelovecast.com).

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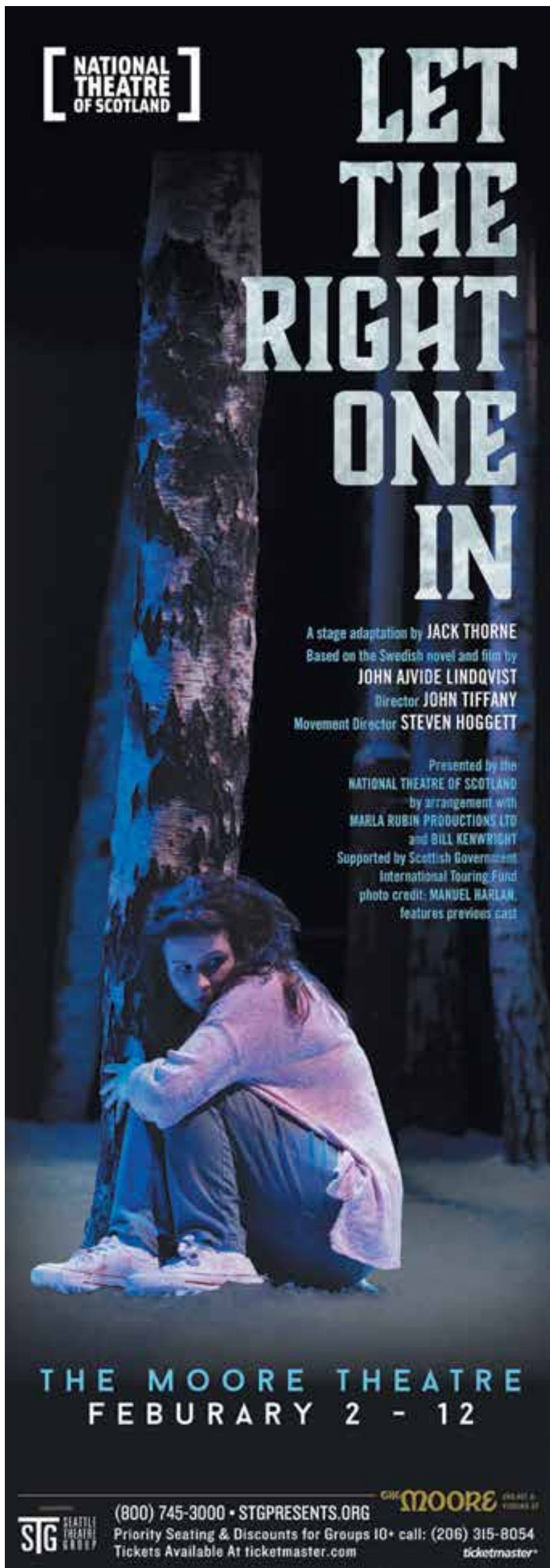
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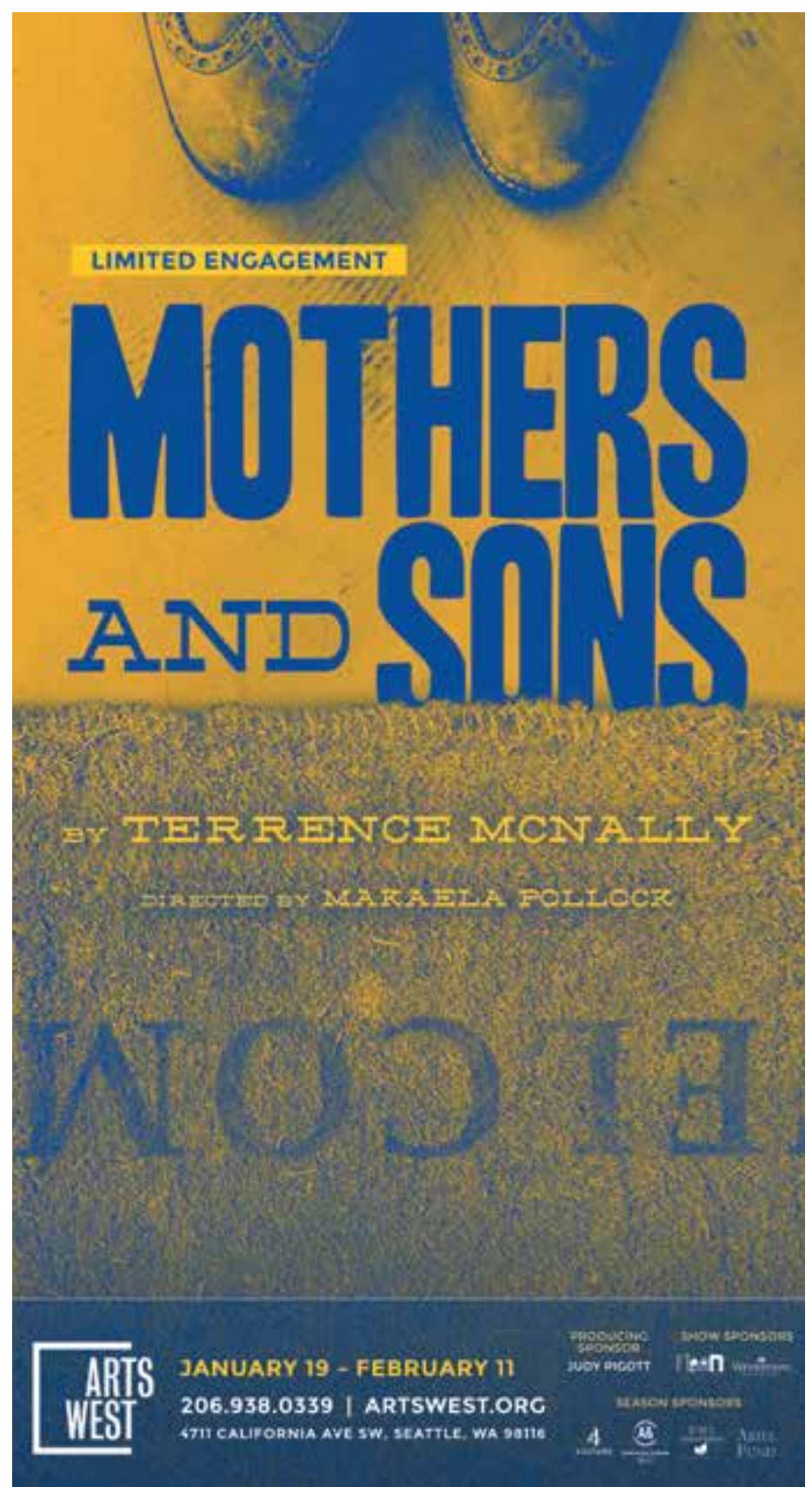


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**20th Century Women**  
Opens Thurs Jan 19 at SIFF Cinema Egyptian & Guild 45th

### FILM

## 20th Century Women

**DON'T MISS** Variety film critic Owen Gleiberman made an important point about the year Mike Mills's latest film, *20th Century Women*, is set, the year 1979. That year "was the last moment of calm before the counter-revolution—the takeover of the culture by money fever, fashion, and Reaganite unreality." Because 2015 is beginning to look much like 1979, Mike Mills, who is famous for directing *Beginners*, may have made the right movie at the right time. *20th Century Women* also has a much-praised performance by the great Annette Bening. (*SIFF Cinema Egyptian & Guild 45th, opens Thurs Jan 19*) **CHARLES MUDEDE**

*We also recommend...*

**Arrival:** Various locations  
**Elle:** Grand Illusion  
**Fences:** SIFF Cinema Uptown & Sundance Cinemas  
**Hidden Figures:** Various locations  
**Jackie:** SIFF Cinema Egyptian & Seven Gables  
**La La Land:** Various locations  
**Lion:** Meridian 16 & Sundance Cinemas  
**Live By Night:** Sundance Cinemas  
**Manchester by the Sea:** Various locations  
**Moana:** Various locations

**Moonlight:** Various locations  
**Office Christmas Party:** Varsity Theatre  
**Paterson:** Meridian 16  
**Rogue One: A Star Wars Story:** Various locations  
**Showgirls with David Schmader:** Triple Door, Wed Jan 18, 7:30 pm, \$20  
**Singin' in the Rain 65th Anniversary:** Various locations, Wed Jan 18

Complete listings at [strangerthingstodo.com](http://strangerthingstodo.com)

### FOOD & DRINK

## Rough Draft #5 Inauguration Day

**DON'T MISS** I don't need to explain why Rough Draft is awesome, because I've been big-upping them since I went to the first one and was bowled over by the ambitious, adventurous 12-course tasting menu—and the venue and the genuine festivity and the eclectic mix of guests and so on ad infinitum. Every subsequent Rough Draft I've been to has been similarly boundary pushing, delicious, and, most importantly, fun as fuck. This one, however, is special. That it falls on Inauguration Day is no accident—the Rough Draft crew is donating all proceeds from the event to the ACLU as a big "fuck you" to Trump. A big, six-course, boozy fuck you that culminates in a "drink till it's gone" after-party. It's also at LoveCityLove, which only furthers the

theme of exuberant cultural expression in the face of our nation's dangerous flirtation with fascism. Maybe I'm not the most ardent activist, but if I can protest Cheeto Jesus with guava pork cheek and elderflower cured salmon, followed by a Bacchanalian art dance party, that's how I'm going to do it. Two birds, one stone, and all that. (*LoveCityLove, Fri Jan 20, 6 pm, \$90*) **TOBIAS COUGHLIN-BOGUE**

*We also recommend...*

**Fuckery and Cocktails:** Ada's Technical Books, Thurs Jan 19, 6-9 pm, \$40  
**Pink Carpet Project:** Rhino Room, Fri Jan 20, 7 pm, \$25, 21+

Complete listings at [strangerthingstodo.com](http://strangerthingstodo.com)

### READINGS & TALKS

## Voices of a People's History of the United States

**DON'T MISS** Donald Trump and his cretinous cabinet aren't the first authoritarian administration to occupy this country's highest executive offices. One good way to remember that, and to resist its coming, is to focus your attention not on Trump but on the stories from US history your textbooks may have neglected, unless your history teacher (aka Matt Damon) somehow slipped

Howard Zinn's brick into your locker. Ha, gross. Anyway, some of Seattle's most passionate, powerful, and gallant readers will give voice to these stories of colonial terror and humanitarian triumph, including comedian Brett Hamil, *South Seattle Emerald's* Marcus Harrison Green, Jarrell Davis, Seattle civic poet Claudia Castro Luna, Stranger Genius Award winner Valerie Curtis-Newton, Carlynn Newhouse, Shontina Vernon, and others. It will be a bracing reminder of the events that led up to this moment, as well as a road map for resistance. (*Seattle City Hall, Fri Jan 20, noon-1 pm, free*) **RICH SMITH**

*We also recommend...*

**David Sedaris: Manuscript Workshop:** Broadway Performance Hall, Jan 18-20, 7 pm, \$50  
**Dr. Edwin J. Nichols:** Central Library, Mon Jan 23, 7-9 pm, free  
**Emily Robbins:** Elliott Bay Book Company, Thurs Jan 19, 7 pm, free  
**Laurie Frankel:** Elliott Bay Book Company, Tues Jan 24, 7 pm, free  
**Local Voices:** Sorrento Hotel, Wed Jan 18, 7:30 pm, free  
**Suzanne O'Sullivan: It's Not All in Your Head:** Town Hall, Thurs Jan 19, 7:30 pm, \$5  
**WordsWest 22: Claudia Rowe and Anastacia Tolbert:** C&P Coffee Company, Wed Jan 18, 7-9 pm, free

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*Continued* ►

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Photo Credit David Johnson CN



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**TRIBAL SEEDS**  
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FEBRUARY 2 | 8:30PM

**WAX TAILOR**  
with L'ORANGE  
FEBRUARY 4 | 9:00PM

**AN EVENING WITH DAWES**  
FEBRUARY 24 | 8:00PM

**SUPER DIAMOND**  
with THE DUDLEY MANLOVE QUARTET  
FEBRUARY 25 | 9:00PM

**DARK STAR ORCHESTRA**  
FEBRUARY 9 | 8:00PM

KISW & SHOWBOX PRESENT  
**SKILLET**  
with SICK PUPPIES + DEVOUR THE DAY  
MARCH 4 | 7:30PM

**REEL BIG FISH + ANTI-FLAG**  
with BALLYHOO! + PKEW PKEW PKEW  
FEBRUARY 11 | 8:00PM

**LETTUCE**  
with THE RUSS LIQUID TEST  
MARCH 9 | 9:00PM

SHOWBOX AND CAN CAN PRESENT  
CARNIVAL OF LOVE  
**DEVOTCHKA**  
with VINCE MIRA + CIRCUS CONTRAPTION BAND + CAN CAN CABARET + JASON WEBLEY  
FEBRUARY 14 | 8:00PM

A LESSON IN ROMANTICS  
10TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR  
**MAYDAY PARADE**  
with KNUCKLE PUCK + MILESTONES  
APRIL 12 | 7:30PM

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with ACCEPTANCE  
JANUARY 24 | 7:00PM

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with MEWITHOUTYOU + TURNOVER  
FEBRUARY 18 | 9:00PM

**IRATION**  
with PROTOJE + ZACH DEPUTY  
JANUARY 27 & 28 | 8:00PM

THE PROPHECY TOUR  
**TCHAMI**  
with MERCER  
MARCH 18 | 9:00PM

**LESS THAN JAKE + PEPPER**  
with KASH'D OUT + RED CITY RADIO  
JANUARY 31 | 7:00PM

KMPS & SHOWBOX PRESENT  
**DAN + SHAY**  
MARCH 24 | 8:00PM

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SMALL TRIBES

THURSDAY 1/19  
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INVISIBLE HAND + JUST CHATTING

SATURDAY 1/21  
**SELASSIE I SOLDIER**

MONDAY 1/23  
**COMMUNIST DAUGHTER**  
BALTO

TUESDAY 1/24  
**SHY GIRLS**  
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THURSDAY 1/26  
**SPENCER GLENN BAND**  
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FRIDAY 1/27  
**KATIE KATE**  
MURDER VIBES + SGF

SATURDAY 1/28  
**VAUDEVILLE ETIQUETTE**  
+ **THE RAMBLIN' YEARS**

SUNDAY 1/29  
**MICAH B**  
NEW TRACK CITY + ILL WRITERS GUILD + CALL

TUESDAY 1/31  
**THE LEMON TWIGS**  
SAVOY MOTEL

THURSDAY 2/2  
**BOOGARINS**

FRIDAY 2/3  
**SERATONES**

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# THINGS TO DO MUSIC

## Noteworthy Shows This Week

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**The Intelligence**  
Fri Jan 20  
at Tractor

### WEDNESDAY 1/18

#### Udo Dirkschneider, Zero Down, Children of Seraph

(El Corazon, all ages) Sporting a buzz cut and standing a little on the short side, Germany's Udo Dirkschneider doesn't exactly look like an 1980s hard-rock icon, but for years he was the face of Accept, best known in the United States for their hit "Balls to the Wall." The band's career never took off on this side of the pond—but overseas, Accept's legacy as premiere purveyors of riff-and-scream remains secure. Take it from me, Accept are good—like, Iron Maiden good. The group now sports a new singer, and Dirkschneider sits at the helm of a long and successful solo career, but that doesn't mean he's above belting out the songs that made him famous. On this tour, Dirkschneider is playing only classic Accept songs, which he promises never to sing again. That makes this show a unique opportunity to celebrate or first experience one of the best-kept secrets in heavy guitar music. **JOSEPH SCHAFER**

#### Brown Sabbath, Dust Moth

(Nectar) If you've ever yearned for the songs of British metal pioneers Black Sabbath to swagger with more Latin-rock groove and percussion accents and gust with more brazen horn charts, Austin group Brownout's Brown Sabbath project will answer your prayers. Even if you haven't, but are curious to hear how Sabbath's crucial songs from the 1970s would sound in the deft hands of mostly Hispanic musicians, you should check out Brown Sabbath's flavorful take on *la musica del diablo*. The tribute group's new LP, *Brown Sabbath Vol. II*, contains some of Ozzy and company's greatest creations: "Fairies Wear Boots," "Sweet Leaf," "Children of the Grave," and "Supernaut." How about "Who Are You" and "Fluff" next? **DAVE SEGAL**

#### Dave Alvin and Christy McWilson, the West Seattle Two

(Tractor) I caught Dave Alvin once just outside Chicago (the truly hip, y'see, don't play inside the city limits) and found him refreshingly gnarly for someone truly hip. He made his guitar sound like he'd just thrown it up on top of the amp and walked away from it, even though it was still in his hands. He told the crowd he loved to play Chicago (or close enough) because "I'm half Polish and so is Chicago." He's got roots rock in his roots before that was hip, all the way back to the Blasters, and he loves to noise 'n' roll. But he publishes poetry, to boot. Christy McWilson started out with Seattle's Dynette Set. That makes her more than hip enough! **ANDREW HAMLIN**

### THURSDAY 1/19

#### Ash Borer, Bell Witch, Hissing

(Highline) Pacific Northwest metalheads love their Cascadian black metal. While there might be a geographical bias involved in that affinity, it's fair to say that bands like Wolves in the Throne Room and Agalloch (RIP) helped lend validity to the USBM scene by embracing black metal's caustic mystery while also harnessing the pastoral gloom of our lonesome corner. But those blurry melodies and scratchy guitars can sometimes be more melancholic than menacing. Pit Mount Eerie's *Wind's Poem* against WITTR's *Celestial Lineage* and tell me which record has more teeth. For the kvltists who want more ferocity than reflection out of their gray-sky black metal, check out Arcata's Ash Borer. Their recent album, *The Irrepassable Gate*, doesn't shy from melody, but consistently prioritizes savagery over symphonics. **BRIAN COOK**

#### Dolly Parton Tribute Night

(Conor Byrne) I guess I'm biased in writing this because Dolly Parton is my mom, so I love her

regardless of what she does, but y'all should head out to Conor Byrne for this show and make it into a real DollyParlooz. Some local musicians are taking over her birthday for a night of covers and tribute acts with what had better be a metric fuck-ton of rhinestones, Aqua Net, and fringed candy-pink nubuck. In case you were somehow unaware, Parton is a true national treasure, a sparkling gem, a legit role model for working womxn, and an enduring voice for classic Americana and down-home pop, who will, I hope, continue to strum a lap harp on her lilac fountain cloud formation forever and ever and won't ever die because I honestly wouldn't be able to take that shit. **KIM SELLING**

#### The Bad Plus

(Neptune, all ages) It's a genius strategy for a modern jazz trio to intersperse covers of songs by prominent rock and electronic artists with their own original compositions. To the Bad Plus's credit, they never opt for the obvious approach with their interpretations of Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit," Aphex Twin's "Flim," Black Sabbath's "Iron Man," Pink Floyd's "Comfortably Numb," David Bowie's "Life on Mars?" and other crowd-pleasers. Drummer Dave King, pianist Ethan Iverson, and bassist Reid Anderson lightly trace the songs' structures and then imbue them with new chromosomal chords and notes. The familiar becomes slightly unfamiliar, and sweet dissonance often ensues, as you gradually gain your bearings. The Bad Plus's 2016 LP, *It's Hard*, offers yet more confounding thrills, featuring songs by Johnny Cash, Prince, Ornette Coleman, Kraftwerk, and many other unlikely subjects. **DAVE SEGAL**

#### The Gods Themselves, Erik Blood, Trick Candles

(Chop Suey) Seattle trio the Gods Themselves are seemingly reaching the apex of an upward trajectory that began in 2014 with

their self-titled debut. Their uncanny knack for huge, honkin' hooks that exude toughness and hedonism has never wavered over their three increasingly polished albums. *Pink Noise* and the new *Be My Animal* (for which tonight's show is the release party) find the Gods Themselves—vocalist/guitarist Astra Elane, baritone guitarist/vocalist Dustin Patterson, and drummer Collin O'Meara—striving for commercial success without compromising artistic integrity. They're seasoned pros who know how to make glam rock, disco, and chiseled new wave achieve ornate peaks of melody and groove. Intelligent party music with perfectly aligned yin and yang insouciance, anybody? **DAVE SEGAL**

### FRIDAY 1/20

#### The Intelligence, MASZER, Psychic Death

(Tractor) It's still hard not to think of the Intelligence as a Seattle band, although the Stranger Genius Award winners—led by singer-guitarist Lars Finberg—haven't been based here since 2012. They were so integral to shaping a crucial facet of our city's underground rock sound: an incisive mix of cynical post punk, caustic garage rock, and retro-futurist synth embellishments, all topped with Finberg's sardonic and slyly humorous lyrical observations. Thankfully, Finberg and whichever clever sidekicks he's currently herding to help realize his skewed visions regularly visit Seattle. The Intelligence's growing catalog of subterranean classics, bolstered most recently by 2015's suave *Vintage Future*, gets another airing in our area on the same day a dangerous clown gets sworn into office. We're gonna need Finberg's gallows humor more than ever. **DAVE SEGAL**

#### WORK!: Pezzner, BBecks, Xan Lucero, Drexler, Streeter

(Kremwerk) Dogged determination over many years can pay off in the dance-music realm—especially if you have an abundance of talent, as demonstrated by the career of Seattle's Dave Pezzner. He's been a key mover and shaker of music that inspires moving and shaking since 1998, both as a member of left-field-house duo Jacob London and as a solo performer and DJ. In 2016, Pezzner ascended to yet a higher level, releasing music on revered labels like Get Physical and Dirtybird. He's continued to refine his sleek production style, which balances unusual tones with unerringly sensual rhythms. His tracks are the aural equivalent of weird sex, with all the attendant thrills that this implies. **DAVE SEGAL**

### SATURDAY 1/21

#### High on Fire, Archons, Witchburn

(El Corazon) There are few band names that also accurately describe a band's sound, but Oakland-based, heavy-metal titanic force High on Fire comes close. With intensely punishing riffs less bent on pure shred than well-composed songs, their latest record, *Luminiferous*, only fine-tunes their blazing and highly orchestrated metal epics. Guitarist/vocalist/ancient-alien-conspiracist Matt Pike (also of stoner-metal heavyweights Sleep) sings about extraterrestrial takeover in a

*Continued* ►

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## THINGS TO DO MUSIC

crumbling human society, outing himself in a recent interview with *Rolling Stone* as being inspired by David “lizard people” Icke. Pike also treats *The Epic of Gilgamesh* as a factual, historical document. His profound stonerisms translate well into song, sounding as fantastical and severe as his worldview. Also, if he’s shirtless at this mid-winter show, it’s because wearing shirts is “how they track you, dude.” Into it. **BRITTNI FULLER**

### Entombed A.D., Full of Hell, Turbid North, Deathraid

(Highline) Cite any of the first four Entombed records as your favorite, and you won’t meet much resistance. Sure, the “death ‘n’ roll” of *DCLXVI: To Ride Shoot Straight and Speak the Truth* is markedly different than the slash-and-burn tactics of *Left Hand Path*, but no one is gonna fault you for preferring either end of the spectrum. Subsequent Entombed albums would occasionally dabble in some questionable beefed-up boogie territory, but the band never lost its knack for a mean-spirited hook. Even if you felt the band veered too far from that left-hand path, it’s worth checking in with the rebranded Entombed A.D. The rock pastiche has been dialed back in favor of the more brutal tendencies that singer L.G. Petrov and guitarist Victor Brandt demonstrated in their excellent death-metal project Firespawn. **BRIAN COOK**

### Sumiko Sato: Sakaya Uta

(Chapel Performance Space, all ages) Sumiko Sato is a Japanese pianist, longtime local resident, and PhD from the UW. She is premiering a series of works based on ancient sake-brewing

songs, arranged for a slightly unconventional sextet: Sato on piano, flautist Paul Taub, violinist Tari Nelson-Zagar, cellist Kevin Krentz, contrabassist Dennis Staskowski, and percussionist Paul Kikuchi. You also get an informative film explaining how the sake-brewing songs worked, how you had to catch on to them fast, and how the songs are becoming extinct thanks to brewing automation. I don’t drink anymore, but hey, viva sake songs! She’s also recording this elaborate work and should have it out later this year. Drop by and be the first one on your block to belly up! **ANDREW HAMLIN**

### SUNDAY 1/22

Are we impeaching yet?

### MONDAY 1/23

#### Devendra Banhart

(Showbox, all ages) This freak-folk, Loki-like playboy is coming through town to sing songs off his 2016 album, *Ape in Pink Marble*. Devendra Banhart has been unfairly maligned by everyone from my old college roommate to a current friend as “bad,” and “throwback hippie shit,” and “genre-fucking nonsense.” But even at his most misty-crystal of phases, I still appreciate Banhart’s surprising songwriting and the humor he brings to a genre that’s so often humorless. On the new album, he gives us 13 ultra-chill but comfy songs that all sound the same, but he laces enough wiliness and thoughtfulness into the lyrics and the melodies to keep them interesting. Banhart could sing every one of them to you and a date during an intimate dinner in your apartment and you’d hardly notice him over the hum of the fridge.

And yet, it’s all pretty good. He studiously avoids clichés even as he states eternal truths. “Love’s the only lesson everyone knows how to teach,” he sings on the drowsy “Theme for a Taiwanese Woman in Lime Green.” And “Please don’t love me because you’re through hating you,” he croons on a slightly less drowsy “Saturday Night.” Solid lines. Easy listening. What else do you want on a Monday evening at the Showbox? **RICH SMITH**

### TUESDAY 1/24

#### Talib Kweli, Styles P, K’Valentine

(Showbox, all ages) Get ready for a heavy dose of 1990s underground hip-hop, as two princes of the mic promise to serve up a solid night of lyrical dexterity and crushing boom-bap beats. Many still know Talib Kweli from his tenure in Black Star alongside Yasiin Bey (fka Mos Def). Since their split, Kweli has maintained a solid solo career in this century while focusing on a number of social progress groups, including the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement. Styles P also achieved a good deal of mainstream success as a member of 1990s rap group the LOX with Jadakiss and the lesser-known Sheek Louch, in addition to being a founding member of the Ruff Ryders crew. Similar to Kweli, Styles has been keeping up a solo career that retains the attention of rap diehards due to his serious vocal maneuvering, so if you love the spirit of 1990s lyricism updated for 2017, this show is a must-see. **NICK ZURKO**

#### Code Orange, Youth Code, Lifeless, Payback

(Vera, all ages) Pittsburgh remains one of the few industrialized US cities to pull itself out of

the economic rut left in the wake of manufacturing moving overseas. The city’s survival took guts, perseverance, and grit—all qualities present in the city’s premier hardcore outfit, Code Orange. Formerly known as Code Orange Kids, the act’s particular brand of “perseverance” comes from the Hatebreed school of hard knocks: big, meaty breakdowns butting up against searing mosh riffs. Which isn’t to say that Code Orange don’t bring anything new to the table, either. Noise samples and a few industrial undertones lend color and subtlety to what is too often a one-dimensional style of music. Industrial rockers Youth Code will provide direct support. **JOSEPH SCHAFER**

#### Shy Girls, the Last Artful, Dodgr

(Barboza) I have a lot of feelings (they’re negative, naturally) about cis men using terms for womxn in their dumb band names, but we’ll save that discussion for another time. Shy Girls is actually a performative guy, namely Dan Vidmar, who makes electro R&B that some publicists refer to as “avant soul,” as they apparently don’t know what either of those words mean. The music is pleasant and spacey and sensitive-white-guy-James-Blakey, like a soft alien nightclub make-out with some lyrical plot points harking back to very high-school moments, if you happened to be a really hot girl in high school about whom random dudes wrote electro-R&B songs (I wasn’t, so you’ll have to tell me about it sometime). It’s not weird enough to truly take you places, but it is just sensually bleep-bloopy enough to at least make you switch it out for your Top 40 the Weeknd or DJ Snake x Justin Bieber tracks. **KIM SELLING**

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1/20 FRIDAY		Art Martyrs Presents: <b>Glamorama feat. Proxy Shazam</b> The Shanghai Pearl, The Fabulous Downey Brothers 21+
1/20 FRIDAY		The Crocodile Presents: <b>The Donkeys @ The Sunset</b> Dollie Barnes, The Regrets 21+
1/21 SATURDAY		The Crocodile Presents: <b>School of Rock West Seattle</b> Performs: Best of The NorthWest All Ages
1/21 SATURDAY		The Crocodile Presents: <b>Seattle Rock Lottery</b> 21+
1/22 SUNDAY		Sharing the Stage presents: <b>Sharing The Stage --14th Show</b> Student Openers All Ages

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1.20 Friday (Reggae)  
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DUB SQUAD  
Power Laces

1.21 Saturday (Acoustic/Bluegrass)  
KELLER WILLIAMS KWAHTRO  
Kitchen Dwellers

1.25 Wednesday (Americana/Folk)  
GHOST TOWN WHISTLERS,  
WOODLAND WEST,  
THE SKY COLONY

1.26 Thursday (Jazz Funk)  
CRYSTAL BETH &  
THE BOOM BOOM BAND  
Freudian Slurp, 45th St Brass, Evie B

1.27 Friday (Grateful Dead Tribute)  
"THE DEAD OF WINTER"  
with Andy Coe Band feat. Tim Bluhm

1.28 Saturday (Bollywood Dance Party)  
JAI HO! 6 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

1.29 Sunday (Hip Hop)  
KRIZZ KALI KO  
Bubba Kush, Deadly Poets, Reklez,  
KST Blunt Trauma, DJ Thay

1.31 Tuesday (Americana/Folk)  
BRAD PARSONS  
The Sweet Lillies

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2.2-3 SIR MIX-A-LOT (2 NIGHTS!)

2.4 KARL DENSON'S TINY UNIVERSE

2.7 RAH DIGGA + LYRIC JONES

2.8 TERRAPIN FLYER

2.9 PIGEONS PLAYING PING PONG

2.10 DIRT NASTY

2.11 CLINTON FEARON ACOUSTIC TRIO

2.12 WHITE LIES

2.14 LEMOLO

2.16 MONOPHONICS + ORGONE

2.17 JOHN BROWN'S BODY

2.18 FLOWMOTION + ANDY COE

2.19 KNEEBODY

2.23 THE GLADIATORS

2.24 SCOTT LAW

2.25 MARIACHI FLOR DE TOLOACHE

2.26 JON WAYNE AND THE PAIN

2.28 POLYRHYTHMICS

3.1 MARBIN

3.4 CLINTON FEARON

3.10 DIRTWIRE

3.16-17 ALO (2 NIGHTS!)

3.18 POLECAT

3.23 TROUT STEAK REVIVAL

3.24 SAMMY J

3.29 THE WERKS

4.22 LAS CAFETERAS

5.20 MARK FARINA - MUSHROOM JAZZ

5.25 "A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY...THE CONCERT"

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# THINGS TO DO MUSIC

## The Best of the Rest of the Shows This Week

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### WED 1/18

**LIVE MUSIC**  
**BARBOZA** Cascadia with Small Tribes, 8 pm, \$8  
**CAPITOL CIDER** Wonder, 8-10 pm, free  
**CENTRAL SALOON** The Heavy Pets, Brothers Gow, 8 pm-midnight, \$10/\$15  
🕒 **CROCODILE** Sage The Gemini, 7 pm, \$19  
**THE FUNHOUSE** Dorothy with Guests, 8 pm, \$15  
**HIGH DIVE** Brainthaw: Wall of Ears, Shit Ghost, Kevin Blaquies, Ryan Medlin, 8 pm, \$6/\$10  
**HIGHWAY 99** Big Road Blues, 8 pm, \$7; The Fabulous Roof Shakers, 8 pm, \$7  
**J&M CAFE** The Lonnie Williams Band, 8 pm, free  
**PARAGON** Two Buck Chuck, 8 pm, free  
**ROYAL ROOM** Piano Starts Here: 100th Birthday Celebration for Tadd Dameron and Thelonius Monk, 7:30 pm, \$10  
**SEAMONSTER** Unsinkable Heavies, 10 pm, free  
**SLIM'S LAST CHANCE** The Billy Joe Show, 8 pm, free  
**SUBSTATION** Barring the Weather, The Lowdown Drifters, Mads Jacobsen, 8 pm, \$8  
**SUNSET TAVERN** Nosretep, The Walking Faces, Peg, 9 pm, \$8  
★ **TIMBRE ROOM** Crybaby Studios Monthly Inaugural Show: Golden Gardens, Lilac, Foie Gras, Daisyheroin, 9 pm-midnight Thru Dec 20, \$5  
**TULA'S** Nelda Swiggett and Megabopolis, 7:30 pm, \$12

**JAZZ**  
★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Jamison Ross, 7:30 pm, \$27.50  
**VITO'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE** Brad Gibson Presents, 9 pm

**DJ**  
**LO-FI** Loving Touch, 9 pm-2 am, free  
★ **LOVECITYLOVE** LOVECITYLOVE X WEDNESDAYS, 8-11 pm, \$5/\$10  
**Q NIGHTCLUB** Forms: Craze, 9 pm-2 am, \$15

**CLASSICAL**  
**MCCAW HALL** ★ 🕒 La Traviata, \$25-\$292

### THURS 1/19

**LIVE MUSIC**  
🕒 **CHAPEL PERFORMANCE SPACE** Seattle Phonographers Union with Guests, 8 pm, \$5-\$15  
**COLUMBIA CITY THEATER** Crash The Glass: An All-Female Music Series, 8 pm, free  
🕒 **CROCODILE** A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie, 8 pm, \$20  
🕒 **EDMONDS CENTER FOR THE ARTS** Indigo Girls, 7:30 pm, \$49-\$84  
🕒 **EL CORAZON** Aaron Carter, 7 pm, \$15-\$70  
**HIGH DIVE** Marmalade, 8 pm, \$6  
**HIGHWAY 99** Trailer Park Kings, 8 pm, \$7  
**J&M CAFE** True Romans, 8 pm, free  
**LITTLE RED HEN** Classic Roads, 9 pm, \$3  
★ **LO-FI** Dismal Fest:

Eye of Nix, Microscopic Suffering, Prisonfood, Glacial, Condo Horro, noiseoetnobody+Sisiutl, 8 pm, \$5-\$15  
**NECTAR** Vince Herman & Friends, Gipsy Moon, Cascade Crescendo, 8 pm, \$10/\$15  
**PARAGON** Live Music, 9 pm-2 am  
**SEAMONSTER** Aqua Soul, 10 pm, \$7  
🕒 **STUDIO SEVEN** Matt McClure, Keith Tribou, 7 pm, \$11/\$14  
**SUNSET TAVERN** Sam Russell & the Harborrats, Caleb & Walter, Birch Pereira & the Gin Joints, 9 pm, \$8  
🕒 **TOWN HALL** Ranky Tanky, 7:30 pm, \$20  
**TRACTOR TAVERN** An Evening with The Travelin' McCourys, 8 pm, \$15  
★ 🕒 **TRIPLE DOOR** Motopony, The Warren G Hardings, Adam Williams & Friends, 7 pm, \$15  
**TULA'S** Fred Hoadley's Soñando, 8 pm, \$10  
**VITO'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE** Casey MacGill, 5:30 pm, free; Erika and the Bad Cats, 9 pm

**JAZZ**  
★ **BARCA** Jazz at Barca, 9 pm-midnight, free  
★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Will Downing, 7:30 pm, \$45.50  
**PINK DOOR** Bric-a-Brac, 8 pm, free  
**RESONANCE AT SOMA TOWERS** Icy Hot: Feel The Cool Burn with Greta Matassa & The Susan Pascal Quartet, 7:30-9:30 pm, \$15

**DJ**  
**KREMWERK** Research: Answer Code Request, 9 pm, \$10  
★ **PONY** Billion Dollar Babies: DJ Aykut Ozen and Pretty Baby, 9 pm  
**Q NIGHTCLUB** Studio 4/4: Motez, 9 pm-2 am, \$11  
**CLASSICAL**  
**BENAROYA HALL** Shostakovich Concerto Festival I, 7:30 pm, \$21-\$111  
**BRECHEMIN AUDITORIUM** 🕒 Guest Artist Recital: Arthur Greene, 7:30 pm, free  
🕒 **THE ROYAL ROOM** An Evening With Holly Bowling: The Music of Phish and the Grateful Dead Reimagined for Solo Piano, 8 pm, \$12/\$15

### FRI 1/20

**LIVE MUSIC**  
★ **BARBOZA** Inauguration Day SYA Benefit Show with Tacocat, Wimps, and The Black Tones, 7 pm, \$20  
**CAFE RACER** Cry & Roar 7: Celebrating Seven Years of Racer Sessions: Neil Welch, Allison P. Burke, Honey Noble, Keeli McCarthy, Zen Moth  
**CENTRAL SALOON** Glen Cannon, Bruce Detore, Abi Grace, Lisa Legros, 8 pm-midnight, \$8/\$10  
**COLUMBIA CITY THEATER** Nicholas Russell Band, BRIEL, Benni James, Barnes BBQ, 8 pm, \$10  
**CONOR BYRNE** Seattle Has A Ball: Tom Rorem, Haircuts that Hurt, Electric NoNo, Judd Wasserman, Local Strangers, 8 pm-1 am, \$8

**CROCODILE** Glamorama, The Shanghai Pearl, The Fabulous Downey Brothers, 8 pm, \$18  
🕒 **EL CORAZON** August Burns Red, Protest The Hero, In Heart's Wake, '68, 7 pm, \$23/\$25  
**HIGH DIVE** Life As Cinema, American Island, Moments, Tiger Rider, 8 pm, \$8/\$10  
**HIGHLINE** Striker, Spellcaster, Skelator, Demonhammer, 9 pm, \$15/\$17  
**HIGHWAY 99** Chebon Tiger & The Poulsoys, 8 pm, \$15  
★ 🕒 **KEXP** KEXP Bed-In for Peace: Wimps, Tomo Nakayama, DoNormaal, Grace Love, Sean Nelson, 8-9:30 am, free  
**NECTAR** Giant Panda Guerrilla Dub Squad, Power Laces, 8 pm, \$13/\$15  
★ **THE RHINO ROOM** Pink Carpet Project: Seattle Stands with Planned Parenthood, 7 pm, \$25  
**SLIM'S LAST CHANCE** The Freams, Blacktop Deceiver, Eric Blue & The Soul Review, 9 pm, \$5  
**SNOQUALMIE CASINO** The Pack, Jan 20-21, 8 pm, \$20  
**SPINNAKER BAY BREWING** Women's Blues Jam, 7 pm, free  
**SUNSET TAVERN** The Donkeys, Dollie Barnes, The Regrets, 9 pm, \$12  
🕒 **TRIPLE DOOR** Chris Friel Orchestra: Rolling Stones Extravaganza, 8 pm, \$15/\$18  
**TULA'S** Kareem Kandi Quartet, 7:30 pm, \$18  
🕒 **VERA PROJECT** Guayaba, ZELLi, Paris Alexa, 8 pm, \$6/\$8  
**VERMILLION** Wildstyle: DJ Zeta, 10 pm, free  
**VITO'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE** The Kate Olson Ensemble, 9 pm

**JAZZ**  
★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Will Downing, 7:30 pm, \$45.50  
**LATONA PUB** Phil Sparks Trio, 5 pm, free  
🕒 **PANTAGES THEATER** MarchFourth, 7:30 pm, \$19-\$49  
★ **RESONANCE AT SOMA TOWERS** Concrete — Lines — Fluid — Curves, 8-10 pm, \$20  
**WASHINGTON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS** Black Box Jazz: David Deacon Joyner, 8 pm, \$27

**DJ**  
**CHOP SUEY** Drake vs Kanye, 9 pm, \$15  
**PONY BAR QUEEN**, 9 pm, free  
**R PLACE** Transcendence: with DJ E, 9:30 pm  
★ **THE RUINS** Salon de la Résistance: An Anti-Inaugural Ball: DJ Gene Balk, 8 pm-1 am, \$35-\$75  
**TIMBRE ROOM** Foolish Fridays, 9 pm-2 am, \$5 before 10pm/\$10 after 10pm

**CLASSICAL**  
**BENAROYA HALL** Shostakovich Concerto Festival II, 8 pm, \$21-\$111; 🕒 Seattle Chamber Music Society Winter Festival, \$12-\$294

### SAT 1/21

**LIVE MUSIC**  
**BARBOZA** Selassie I Soldier

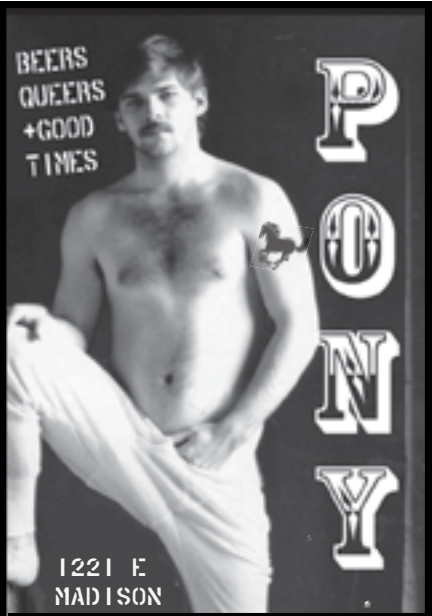
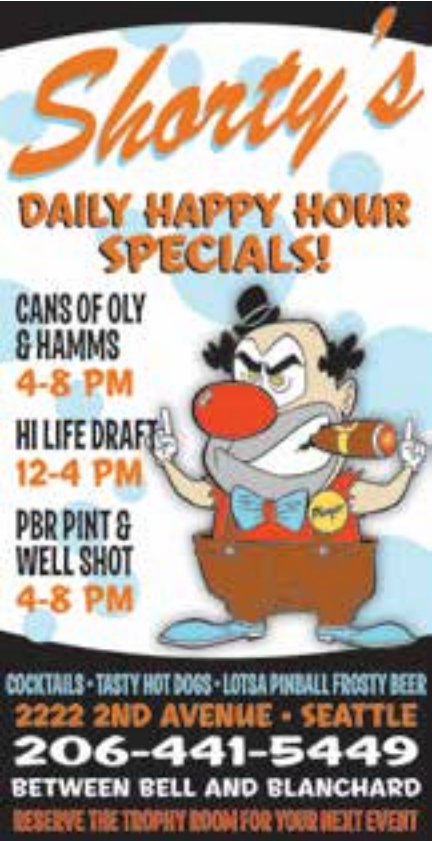
with Guests, 7 pm, \$10  
**BLUE MOON TAVERN** Stiff Spirit, Thrift Store Brats, Dogstrum, 9 pm, \$5  
**CAFE RACER** Cry & Roar 7: Celebrating Seven Years of Racer Sessions: Ivan Arteaga, Spooky Action, Founders Circle, Aaron Otheim, Hunter Gather  
**CAPP'S CLUB** Kalimba: The Spirit of Earth, Wind, and Fire, 8:30 pm, \$20/\$25  
**CENTRAL SALOON** Q Dot, ZNi, Square Bizz, The Gifted Program, 8 pm, \$5/\$8  
**COLUMBIA CITY THEATER** Seattle Interprets Jobim, 8 pm, \$30

**CONOR BYRNE** Sightseer, Leanne Wilkins & The Weathered, Andrea Peterman Band, 9 pm, \$8  
**CROCODILE** 🕒 School of Rock West Seattle: Best of the Northwest, 2 pm, \$10; Seattle Rock Lottery: A Benefit For The Vera Project, 9 pm, \$12  
🕒 **THE FUNHOUSE** School of Rock Issaquah: '80s Metal, 4 pm, \$12/\$15  
★ **GEORGETOWN STEAM PLANT** Corridor, 1 pm-midnight, \$20  
**HIGH DIVE** Kanga, Adrian H & The Wounds, Strap On Halo, Accolade, DJ Paradox, 8 pm, \$8/\$12  
**HIGHWAY 99** Andy Stokes Band, 8 pm, \$20  
★ 🕒 **LUCKY LIQUOR** So Pitted, Charms, Deadbeat Club, Babe Waves, 7 pm, \$8  
**NECTAR** The Keller Williams Kwahtro with Kitchen Dwellers, 8 pm, \$22/\$25  
**RENDEZVOUS** Rock the Status Quo!, 5:30-9 pm, \$8/\$10  
**SEAMONSTER** Jazz Brunch, Sat, noon, free; 700 Saturdays, 10 pm; Stevor Compton Benefit, 3 pm  
**SLIM'S LAST CHANCE** Sugarbush, Wages of Sin, Madcap Pusher, 9 pm, \$5  
**SNOQUALMIE CASINO** The Pack, 8 pm, \$20  
**SUBSTATION** Beatrix Sky, Beta Rocket, Bad Saint, 5 pm, \$6  
**SUNSET TAVERN** Tango Alpha Tango, Gravelroad, Low Hums, 9 pm, \$10  
**TOWN HALL** La Famille Léger, 11 am, free; Bushwick Book Club: Music Inspired by Books Inspired by Water, 8 pm, \$10

★ **TRACTOR TAVERN** Hamilton Leithauser with Alexandra Savior, 10:45 pm, \$18  
**TRINITY** The First Annual Cannabis Winter Ball, 8 pm-midnight, \$25  
**TULA'S** Doctorfunk, 9:30 pm, \$25  
**VERMILLION** Pad Pushers, 9 pm, free  
**VITO'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE** The Tarantellas, 6-9 pm, free; Danny Quintero, 9:30 pm

**JAZZ**  
★ **CORNISH PLAYHOUSE AT SEATTLE CENTER** Cornish Presents: Concrete - Lines - Fluid - Curves, 8 pm, \$25  
★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Will Downing, 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm, \$45.50

**DJ**  
**KREMWERK** GlamCocks Present FOMOHOMO: Demolition Disco, 10 pm-3 am, \$12  
**LO-FI** Snap! '90s Dance Party, 9 pm, \$10



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2/3 NACHO PICASSO  
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2/8 & 2/9 PINBACK  
2/10 OLIVER MTUKUDZI  
2/11 STRIPPED SCREW BURLESQUE: HARD LOVE  
2/18 AMANDASCHRONICLES (EARLY)  
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**chris friel orchestra**  
- rolling stones  
extravaganza

SUN/JANUARY 22 • 7:30PM  
**albert cummings**

MON/JANUARY 23 -  
WED/JANUARY 25 • 7:30PM  
**herb alpert and  
lani hall**

THU/JANUARY 26 &  
FRI/JANUARY 27 • 8PM  
SAT/JANUARY 28 • 5PM & 8PM  
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next • 1/29 lisa koch big ass birthday  
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DEATH VALLEY HIGH  
KNEE HIGH FOX

SAT 2/4 7PM  
**LORDI**  
FLAWED HERO / DRYVER  
MELODRAMAS / ANTAREZ

THU 2/9 7PM 21+.  
**LA GUNS'**  
REUNION TOUR  
W/ PHIL LEWIS & TRACII GUNS  
PALOOKA/ CUSTOM / MAHAFFEY

SAT 2/18 7PM  
**LYNCH MOB**  
IRON DRAGON / CHASING THE BULLET/  
MOMS ROCKET / WHAT THOU WILT

SUN 2/19 6PM  
**ALTERBEAST**  
DEPTHS OF HATRED / AENIUMS /  
AETHERE / AETHEREUS / ODYSIAN

MON 2/20 6PM  
**MARDUK**  
INCANTATION / SVART CROWN

THU 2/23 6PM  
**BORN OF OSIRIS**  
VOLUMES  
OCEANS ATE ALASKA /  
WITHIN THE RUINS / FIRES FROM THE GODS

UP AND COMING: 1/24 MEMORIES IN BROKEN  
GLASS 1/31 MEADE AVE 2/26 ULI JON ROTH 3/1  
MAX & IGGOR CAVALERA "RETURN TO ROOTS  
TOUR" 3/2 OTEP 3/5 DEVIL DRIVER / DEATH  
ANGEL 3/6 DARKEST HOUR 3/1 ARCH GOAT

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Mental Illness  
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ON SALE 1/20  
NEPTUNE THEATRE  
1305 NE 45TH ST SEATTLE  
TICKETS AT STGPRESENTS.ORG

## THINGS TO DO

### The Best of the Rest of the Music

**SUBSTATION** Petey Clicks,  
10 pm-4 am, \$15  
**TIMBRE ROOM** La  
Realeza, 9 pm-3 am, \$6  
**TRINITY** The First Annual  
Cannabis Winter Ball,  
8 pm-midnight, \$25

#### CLASSICAL

● **BENAROYA HALL**  
Seattle Chamber Music  
Society Winter Festival,  
\$12-\$294  
**MCCAW HALL** ★ ● La  
Traviata, \$25-\$292  
● **QUEEN ANNE**  
**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Gallery Concerts: The Three  
Gambists, 7:30-9:30 pm,  
\$15-\$35  
★ ● **ST. MARK'S**  
**CATHEDRAL** Sound Bath  
Experience with Daniella  
White, Daniel Blue, and  
Luk Will, 7:30 pm, \$20-\$30  
● **UNITED METHODIST**  
**CHURCH** Winterlude,  
7:30 pm, \$15

#### SUN 1/22

#### LIVE MUSIC

● **BROADWAY**  
**PERFORMANCE HALL**  
Divertimento: Rainbow  
City Band, 2-4 pm, \$20  
● **CAFE RACER CAFE**  
**RACER** Cry & Roar 7:  
Celebrating Seven Years of  
Racer Sessions  
**CHOP SUEY** Temple  
Canyon, Wokey, Dante &  
The Mirrors, 8 pm, \$10  
● **CROCODILE** Sharing  
The Stage with Student  
Openers, 4 pm, \$7-\$15  
**THE FUNHOUSE** Armed For  
Apocalypse, Witchburn,  
Deathbed Confessions,  
Mother Crone, 8 pm,  
\$8/\$10  
**HIGH DIVE** Denny Blaine,  
The Moonspinners, 8 pm,  
\$6/\$8  
● **THE LAKE TRAIL**  
**TAPROOM** Sunday Open  
Blues Jam, 3-7:30 pm, free  
**LATONA PUB** Acoustic  
Bluegrass, 7-9 pm, free  
**LITTLE RED HEN** Davanos,  
9 pm, \$3  
**SUBSTATION** Fynnies  
Basement, Alex Profane,  
and The Revolving Bullets,  
8 pm, \$8  
**SUNSET TAVERN** Harrison B  
with Shiver Twins, 8 pm, \$8  
**TRACTOR TAVERN** Bear's  
Den with Guests, 8 pm, \$18  
● **TRIPLE DOOR** Albert  
Cummings, 7:30 pm,  
\$20/\$25  
**TULA'S** Easy Street Band,  
4 pm, \$7  
**VITO'S RESTAURANT &**  
**LOUNGE** Bob Hammer,  
6 pm, free

#### JAZZ

**THE ANGRY BEAVER** Jazz  
at the Beaver, free  
**DARRELL'S TAVERN**  
Sunday Night Jazz Jam:  
Guests, 8 pm, free  
★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Will  
Downing, Through Jan 22,  
7:30 pm, \$45.50  
★ ● **TULA'S** Jim Cutler  
Jazz Orchestra, 7:30 pm,  
\$10  
★ **VITO'S RESTAURANT**  
**& LOUNGE** The Ron  
Weinstein Trio, 9:30 pm,  
free

#### DJ

**MERCURY** Mode: DJ Trent  
Von, 9 pm, \$5

#### CLASSICAL

**BENAROYA HALL** National  
Geographic Live: Point of  
No Return, 2 pm, \$26-\$46;  
● Seattle Chamber Music  
Society Winter Festival,  
\$12-\$294  
**MCCAW HALL** ★ ● La  
Traviata, \$25-\$292  
● **PLYMOUTH**  
**CONGREGATIONAL**  
**CHURCH** Seattle Festival  
Orchestra: Russian  
Masterworks, 3 pm, \$10

● **QUEEN ANNE**  
**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Gallery Concerts: The Three  
Gambists, 3-5 pm, \$15-\$35  
★ ● **ST. MARK'S**  
**CATHEDRAL** Complime  
Choir, 9:30 pm, free

#### MON 1/23

#### LIVE MUSIC

**BARBOZA** Communist  
Daughter, 8 pm, \$10  
**CAPITOL CIDER**  
EntreMundos, 9:30 pm,  
free  
**CONOR BYRNE** Bluegrass  
Jam, 8:30 pm, free  
● **THE FUNHOUSE** Marc  
Rizzo and Oraculum, 7 pm,  
\$10/\$14  
**LUCKY LIQUOR** Sid Law,  
3-6 pm  
★ ● **THE SHOWBOX**  
Devendra Banhart, 7 pm,  
\$20  
**SUBSTATION** Thou Shall  
Kill, Dilapidation, Pill  
Brigade, 9 pm, \$6  
**SUNSET TAVERN** Heather  
Edgley, Bug Hunter,  
Lumphead, 8 pm, \$8  
**TULA'S** Lonnie Mardis and  
Seattle Central College  
Jazz Orchestra, 7:30 pm, \$5

#### JAZZ

**THE ROYAL ROOM** The  
Salute Sessions, 10 pm, free  
**TRIPLE DOOR** ● Brian  
Nova Jazz Jam, 8 pm, free;  
● Herb Alpert and Lani  
Hall, Jan 23-25, 7:30 pm,  
\$50-\$80

#### CLASSICAL

**BENAROYA HALL** National  
Geographic Live: Point of  
No Return, 7:30 pm, \$26-  
\$46; ● Seattle Chamber  
Music Society Winter  
Festival, \$12-\$294; ●  
Watjen Concert Organ  
Recital & Demonstration,  
12:30 pm, free

#### TUE 1/24

#### LIVE MUSIC

**CAFE RACER** Café Racer  
Song Circle  
**COLUMBIA CITY THEATER**  
RIVVRS, The Brevet,  
Cameron Miles Lavi-Jones,  
Gypsy Temple, 8 pm, \$10  
● **CROCODILE** American  
Wrestlers, 6:30 pm, \$10  
**HIGH DIVE** Monsterwatch  
January Residency, 8 pm,  
\$6/\$8  
**J&M CAFE** The Cory Wilds  
Blues Jam, 9 pm-2 am  
★ **THE ROYAL ROOM**  
The Suffering Fuckheads,  
10 pm, free  
**SEAMONSTER** Joe Doria  
Presents, 11 pm, free; ★  
Michael Owcharuk, 8 pm  
● **SHOWBOX SODO** One  
OK Rock, 7 pm, \$27.50/\$30  
● **STUDIO SEVEN**  
Memories In Broken Glass,  
Of Serpents & Saviors, The  
Ansible, 6:30 pm, \$10/\$12  
**SUNSET TAVERN** July Talk,  
Mona, 8:30 pm, \$13  
**TULA'S** Jay Thomas and the  
Cantaloupes, 7:30 pm, \$10

#### JAZZ

**OWL N' THISTLE** Jazz with  
Eric Verlinde, 8 pm, free  
● **THE ROYAL ROOM** SRJO  
Jazz Scholars Fundraiser,  
7:30 pm, free  
● **TRIPLE DOOR** Herb  
Alpert and Lani Hall,  
Through Jan 25, 7:30 pm,  
\$50-\$80

#### CLASSICAL

**BENAROYA HALL** National  
Geographic Live: Point of  
No Return, 7:30 pm, \$26-  
\$46; ● Seattle Chamber  
Music Society Winter  
Festival, \$12-\$294  
**CAFE RACER** Classical  
Music Night, 7:30 pm  
● **RESONANCE AT SOMA**  
**TOWERS** Schubert Piano  
Sonatas with Daniel  
Shapiro, 7:30-9:30 pm, \$20



## MUSIC

CHRIS VANDEBROOKE *A respected, untraditional drummer who led an untraditional life.*

COURTESY KIRK VANDEBROOKE

## Seattle Remembers Chris Vandebrooke

### Troubled Former Engine Kid Drummer Was Killed in LA Last Month

BY DAVE SEGAL

On December 16, Chris Vandebrooke, a respected and talented drummer in the rock groups Fairgrove and Engine Kid, was killed in Griffith Park in Los Angeles. As of this writing, the LAPD has released no further details on the investigation.

Though neither band was ever hugely popular, both left a deep mark on Seattle music—Engine Kid in particular; perhaps the closest this city ever came to matching the emotional resonance of Slint, an angular, enigmatic, and influential post-rock band from Louisville.

Friends are planning a memorial show in town for Vandebrooke as well as a public Facebook memorial page; we'll report the details on these, as well as the ongoing LAPD investigation, when we know them.

Local music-industry figures and friends who knew him during his time in Seattle reminisced about him, recalling a talented musician with a "childlike presence" who descended slowly into mental illness, drug abuse, and homelessness.

In the nascent 1990s Seattle music scene, Vandebrooke connected with Greg Anderson, guitarist/singer of Engine Kid. "We had come from the hardcore-punk scene," Anderson said. "Engine Kid differed from that. We were writing stuff that was influenced by Slint, the Melvins, Galaxie 500, Sonic Youth—experimenting sonically. It clicked very quickly and very well."

They self-released the single "Novocaine" and played a lot of shows. Slowly people began to notice, including Marco Collins, the former DJ for 107.7 The End who recalled hearing Engine Kid for the first time at Fallout Records on Capitol Hill.

"I ended up writing an actual letter to Engine Kid to ask if they'd want to do a radio interview on 107.7 The End because they sounded like no one else from the Northwest. They created a loud, slow, dirgey, and punishing anthem that the audience had to hear," he said.

Tim Cook, formerly of C/Z Records, had met Vandebrooke at Fallout Records in the autumn of 1992. "I had become obsessed with the first self-released 7-inch by a new band, Engine Kid, based on a recommendation by Fallout co-owner Russ Battaglia," he

**"He was a super cool and inventive drummer. A soulful, multit talented person."**

remembered. "Within the next week, Russ would introduce me to the other members of the band who were also Fallout regulars. We became friends, 'trenchmates' in a dire Seattle scene filled with bands and people who were making an overwhelming amount of bad music for artless, careerist motivations."

Those who knew him spoke fondly of Vandebrooke's musical acumen. "He wasn't a traditional drummer," remembered Anderson. "He played more like a percussionist. He would put accents in different places than the other drummers I would play with. His own character seeped through and became apparent on every song that we had."

Said Cook: "Vandebrooke was cut from a different cloth from his bandmates, and any of my other friends. He lived in the moment exclusively. And he was a great drummer."

The sentiments about his playing—and his personality—were echoed by many. "He was a super cool and inventive drummer," said Tim Midyett of Silkworm, a band that played many shows with Engine Kid in early 1990s Seattle. "A soulful, multit talented person. Eccentric, troubled, yes. A lot of stuff roiling below the surface. He was full of ideas and energy—for music, for skateboarding, for art—so not all of the stuff was bad. But not all of it was good, either."

Vandebrooke struggled with his sexuality—or at least with the disclosure of it to his friends and bandmates. Anderson remembers the meeting when the band decided to tell Vandebrooke he was being asked to leave.

"He started not to feel a part of what we were doing. He started getting on our nerves. He was really into skating and into graffiti. That's not where our heads were at. We were 100 percent into the music," he explained. "Our plan was to tell Chris we were kicking him out of the band. He took it very calmly. There was a moment of silence, and then he said, 'I want to tell you something. I'm gay. I've been waiting for the right moment, but I wasn't comfortable enough. Now that I'm not part of the group, I can tell you that.' We were 22 years old. It was the first time that situation had been placed in our laps."

Collins said he was proud of Vandebrooke for coming out. "I rejoiced that I had another indie-rock gay friend to barhop with! Chris's life just kept getting better. He formed a new queer band called Fairgrove then moved to San Francisco for a fancy ►

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◀ tech job,” Collins recalled.

But that fancy tech life never panned out.

Friends describe the last few years of Vandebrooke's life as being fraught with mental illness and drug abuse, as he drifted in and out of homelessness.

“I started getting calls from his friends in San Francisco,” Collins said. “His drug habit had allegedly increased and he wasn't showing up at work. After a while, he wasn't showing up at home. Reports from friends said that they'd seen him aimlessly walking through alleyways talking to himself. I didn't see him for years.”

Others reported similar run-ins: “About five years ago, I was going to 7-Eleven by the Southern Lord Records office” in Los Angeles, Anderson remembered. “There are always people panhandling out front. I was going out the door, and this panhandler hits me up, and it's Chris. I was shocked... His face was all bloody. He had a black eye. He'd been jumped,” he said. “I didn't know how to handle it.”

Collins describes the last time he saw Vandebrooke. Three years ago, Collins was out at Neumos when a man covered in dirt, clothes soaked in motor oil, approached him. “I leaned closer to see his eyes and then recognized him. ‘Chris! Are you okay? WTF?’” said Collins. “It was shocking what the years, streets, and disease had done to him. He asked if he could borrow \$20. Now I'm pretty good at being able to spot a junkie needing dope money, but he seemed too steady and clear-eyed for that. I trusted my gut and went to the ATM, and then we grabbed some pizza and I tried to understand how things got this bad.”

Collins said Vandebrooke filled in the “bits and pieces he could remember: cold states and unfamiliar cities, dangerous parks and how he could only sleep four hours a night because his stuff was stolen and he had been attacked. I could clearly see the shame and embarrassment in his eyes and had to fill the awkwardness with something. ‘Well, let's try to figure out some stuff.’”

Collins asked him to meet the next day for lunch at Rancho Bravo—he wanted to find him housing and worked with his roommate, an attorney at the Disabled Homeless Advocacy Project, to call in a favor and get Vandebrooke a room on Capitol Hill.

But Vandebrooke declined the offer: He said he “didn't want anyone monitoring him.” The housing program required regular doctor appointments. Collins reasoned that it could just be temporary but would get him off the street in the meantime. But Vandebrooke claimed, “I just want a little granny pad in someone's backyard where no one bothers me.”

“I was irked at him,” said Collins “but I asked if he wanted to spend the night and we'd revisit it in the morning. I took him home, we washed all his clothes, got him some toiletries, and we made dinner together. I never even acknowledged the various nonexistent people he was taking to all night. We watched TV, talked about the old days, and I tried one more time to reason with him. We exchanged numbers and I sent him off to a very hard, confusing, and unforgiving world.”

That was the last time Collins saw him.

For his friends, they want to remember him as he was before the fall.

“Chris was present and available and cared,” Cook said. “Anyone could benefit from having a friend like this, and Chris was our guy. Being around him at that time was to notice a childlike presence, easily fascinated; he was constantly futzing with stuff, solving puzzles for amusement. This was alternately charming and annoying depending on your mood, but it was always Chris.” ■



## BOOKS



NATALIA DOTTO

## Part Fairy Tale, Part Trans-Kid Drama

Seattle Author Offers Highly Readable  
*This Is How It Always Is*

BY RICH SMITH

**W**e learn a lot about the Walsh-Adams family before they arrive in Seattle.

Rosie and Penn meet in college, and it's cute. She's an ER doctor, and he's an impossibly lovely person getting his MFA in writing. They're companionate AF. Fast-forward a few years, and they're living in a big old house in Wisconsin with five children they think are boys. But then the youngest child, Claude, starts wearing a dress. Claude wants to see a princess as a main character in the father's bedtime stories. Shortly before kindergarten, Claude briefly identifies as a "fairy child" before fully emerging as a girl named Poppy.

And then the teacher needs to know which pronoun. And the school district needs to know which bathroom. And Rosie needs to do a million things, but mostly reckon with whether she's "losing" a child or "gaining" one or both. And the other kids worry about bullying and their own reputation. And Penn is still great. And Poppy seems to be doing just fine, but is she *really*?

Then there are a few moments of violence. After those moments, and after a lot of research, the family turns toward Seattle, a place where it's supposedly "so far past tolerant that heterosexual reviewers complained that they felt awkward holding hands at some brunch places and were treated rudely by the waitstaff." In a new place, the family faces a new question: Do they tell their neighbors that their girl has a penis? Or do they start fresh, assuming that the genitals of their 6-year-old are nobody's fucking business?

*This Is How It Always Is*, Seattle writer Laurie Frankel's third novel, explores the trials, tribulations, questions, and unbridled delights that come along with raising a trans child. Though Poppy is only one of the five children, and though the socially constructed disconnect between her genitals and her gender enter the realm of public concern, as Frankel writes, for only about 2 percent of her life, Frankel focuses the story on Rosie's concerns about Poppy.

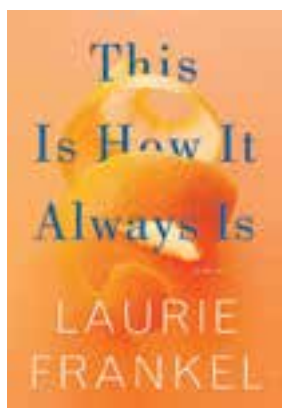
That's because the world seems to be focused

on concerns about Poppy. What will the first day of school be like—for a girl who has a penis!? What will a sleepover be like—for a girl who has a penis!? Can a 5-year-old even really know whether or not they're a girl with a penis? If they don't, should you encourage them one way or the other? What if gender is a spectrum?!

Good city liberals might want to toss the book out the window at page 100 and start shouting: "WHO CARES?!" Rigid gender binaries are so STUPID." But we all know who cares. Rosie's worries originate from a desire to protect her child from harm. Though the answers to her questions about the consequences of sudden genital discovery seem like they should be beside the point of raising a child in the United States, the problem is that they're not. And, as a doctor and parent, Rosie sees plenty of evidence of that.

The story is told in close third person, and since the narrator primarily shadows Rosie, Frankel's sentences mostly reflect Rosie's personality. They're practical, calmly but thoroughly analytical, occasionally gritty, occasionally clever. They mostly tell it to you straight—but in moments of power, they swing into a literary register that lets the language do more of the explaining than the explaining does. "Rosie went to check on the worm-girl so she could finish her shift so she could go home and start packing and go home." This strategy makes for easy reading. I blew through the 323 pages in two days, but I was on a deadline. Your book club may need a whole week.

Ultimately, the book, like all books (and like Poppy), is a story about the power of stories. More specifically, a fairy tale (get it?). It even starts with a "Once upon a time" and ends with an "ever after." But it's not sanitized, and the pages aren't gilt. It's the old-fashioned kind of story that shows how cruel people can be to each other, and also how selfless—the kind children can understand but that adults can really feel. ■



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# FILM



**BRIGHT LIGHTS** The mother and child reunion is only a motion away.

## Together in Life, Together in Death

BY LEILANI POLK

It's clear within the first half hour of *Bright Lights* that Debbie Reynolds and Carrie Fisher were a mother and daughter with two highly disparate personalities. Directed by Alexis Bloom and Fisher Stevens, the documentary (which was released on HBO on January 7, shortly after the back-to-back deaths of both of its stars) casts Carrie Fisher as an old soul with an acerbic sense of humor and a dark outlook shaped by familial dysfunction. We learn about her battles with bipolar disorder and the history of drug abuse she overcame in her last decade. The original *Star Wars* blockbusters were her biggest film

successes, and while being the former Princess Leia kept her in the collective consciousness and was a source of income decades after the film were released, it overshadowed all other roles she took and certainly contributed to her cynicism about show business.

In contrast, Debbie Reynolds upheld the classical prim and proper cinema airs she adopted as a singer and big-screen star for MGM in films like *Singin' in the Rain* and *The Tender Trap*. She never lost her love of performing or the charm that made her America's sweetheart, and she always seemed to maintain an upbeat attitude and a smile, or at the very least

an agreeable expression, as if the cameras were always rolling. She was quick-witted, too, though she preferred a nicer, PG-rated tone to her daughter's scathing bite.

They were diametrical opposites, but Reynolds was the sunshine casting rays into Fisher's murk and shadows, while Fisher was Reynolds's rock, an overprotective hen who lived right next door and constantly fretted over her mother's flagging health and vitality, calling Reynolds a "tsunami" when it came to her relentless will to be onstage despite possessing the declining physical capacities of an octogenarian. At one point in *Bright Lights*, Fisher admits, "I should be trying to let go of my daughter instead of letting go of my mom. Everything's backward."

The love, respect, and admiration they shared didn't come easy; the women endured plenty of strife and turmoil over the years, most clearly represented in Fisher's semi-autobiographical 1987 novel *Postcards from the Edge* (and the 1990 film that followed). But the struggle only made their bond stronger, and by the time *Bright Lights* was filmed, the pair seemed to appreciate each other for their differences and had become the best of friends, a couple of wacky peas in a pod, contrary yet complementary.

The film chronicles the ups and downs in the evolution of their relationship as well as offering an intimate peek at their individual and generally opposing tastes and attitudes about their homes, careers, and relationships. It opens with archival family film footage spanning decades and featuring Fisher and younger brother Todd from toddler to teenage years, along with old film clips from both women's catalogs and even some footage from Reynolds's live stage act that revealed her attempts to groom her daughter for showbiz, which ultimately backfired and spurred Fisher's rebellion.

It touches on Reynolds's history with Eddie Fisher—dad to Carrie and Todd but absent through most of their upbringing after he infamously left Reynolds for Elizabeth Taylor—and the husband who followed and gambled away Reynolds's fortune before their divorce. It sheds light on Reynolds's collection

of costumes and Hollywood movie memorabilia, originally amassed for a museum that never happened and reluctantly auctioned off piecemeal to pay outstanding debts (Marilyn Monroe's famous white *Seven Year Itch* subway-grate dress netted \$6 million).

Fisher offers further illumination during a guided tour of "The Compound," the adjoining Beverly Hills properties where she and her mother lived, pointing out an eccentric assortment of photos, tchotchkes, keepsakes, memorabilia, and even her mother's hilarious collection of ugly child portraits.

*Bright Lights* also features both poignant and amusing looks at their everyday interactions. In one particularly memorable scene, Reynolds is sitting for an interview and Fisher slinks by in the background, singsong-ing "I'm not heeere," and tells her mother she's heading to bed. Seconds later, the house alarm goes off, and throughout the abrasive repetitive blaring, Reynolds remains pleasant and unruffled, even breaking out into song as people scurry around trying to figure out how to turn it off (including an ill-tempered Fisher), then insisting she can't remember the alarm code (though she throws out a string of numbers that ultimately works).

The documentary draws to a close with Reynolds resting at home with her two children, tired but triumphant after accepting a lifetime achievement award from the Screen Actors Guild. "Could you handle another lifetime achievement award?" Todd asks, and her answer is earnest foreshadowing: "I can't answer that because it's too special and I won't be here then, I will have gone on... you don't get a chance to have a moment like this very often. It's not like any moment, it's its own special moment."

Fisher passed away on December 27, 2016, four days after having a massive heart attack. Her mother followed less than 24 hours later. Though Reynolds's death was officially ruled a stroke ("intracerebral hemorrhage") with hypertension as an underlying cause, in the wake of *Bright Lights*, the true cause was clear: Her daughter's death was a devastating blow much too hard to endure, and it seemed to be the cue she needed to take her final bow. ■

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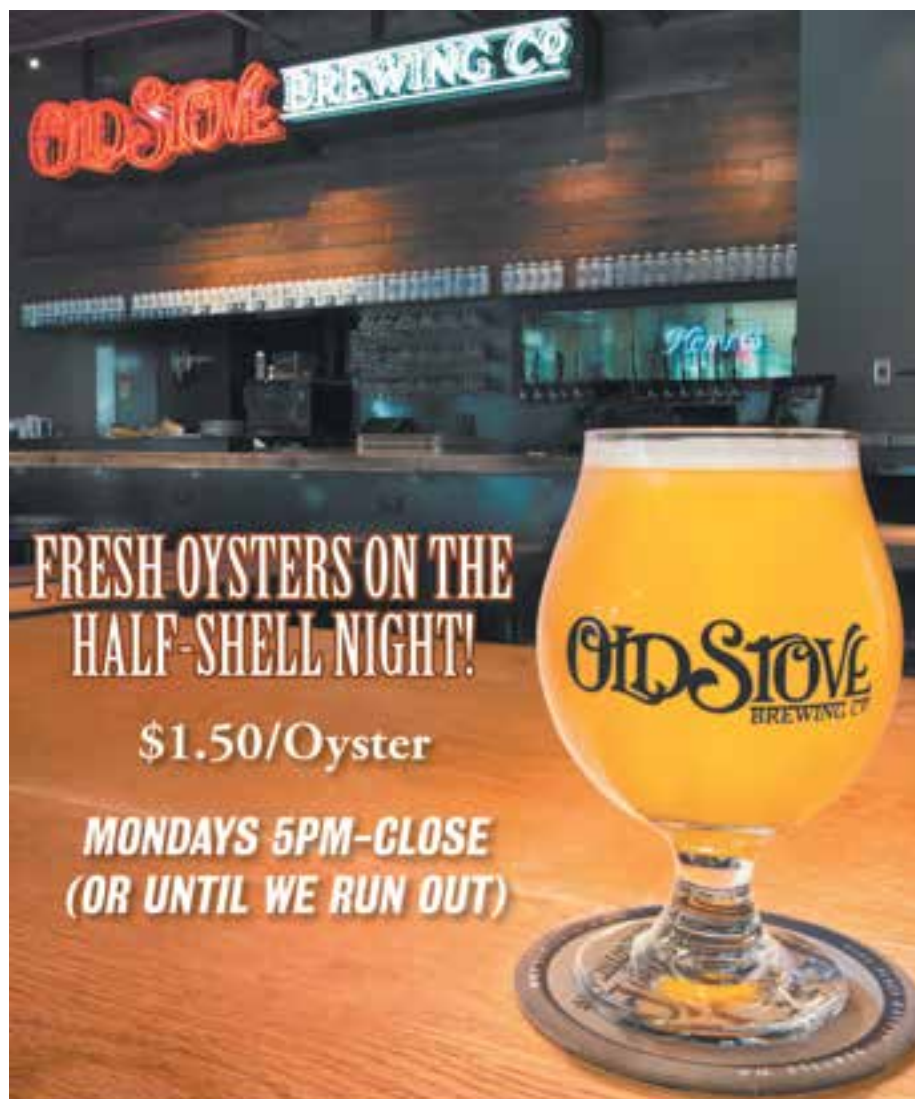
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## An Enduring Classic

### In the Midst of Capitol Hill's Restaurant Madness, Machiavelli Is Still Standing

BY TOBIAS COUGHLIN-BOGUE

**M**achiavelli is a Seattle classic. As the Italian restaurant's tagline proclaims, it's been "a Capitol Hill tradition since 1988," which means it has been serving up veal piccata longer than many of you reading this have likely been alive. In a neighborhood that has new restaurants opening nearly every week, often at the expense of an old favorite, it's still going strong. Indeed, Machiavelli is often as busy on a Monday night as any

**Ristorante Machiavelli**  
1215 Pine St, 621-7941

of the newer, hipper spots in the vicinity are on a Saturday, sometimes even more so.

Machiavelli's menu does not exactly offer the type of novel and adventurous culinary delights you probably associate with Capitol Hill. Why go out to a nice dinner on the Hill to have a simple pasta Bolognese when you could go six blocks away and get some crazy sea-urchin and chili-flake spaghetti from Anchovies & Olives? The decor, too, is pretty

unassuming. It has a dark-wood bar and a romantic atmosphere, despite the no-frills interior. No rooftop succulent garden, clerestory windows, or polished concrete floors here.

In the midst of the neighborhood's ongoing restaurant boom—36 new restaurants in 2016 alone, according to Capitol Hill Seattle blog, right on pace with 2015's 38—why does this comparatively simple restaurant still have lines out the door?

While there is plenty of inaccessible, high-concept pabulum in the area, there are many other places that do the relaxed neighborhood joint thing really well. Saint John's on Pike Street, for example, is much younger than Machiavelli but already feels like an old friend.

Perhaps it's just that simple Italian food is appealing. As chef Mike Easton has demonstrated so well with Il Corvo, you don't have to have fussy presentation to get people to ►

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◀ love your pasta. Machiavelli's menu does not change, and they do not offer much in way of specials. It is the same two-page affair it's always been, with the same Italian standbys—antipasto salad, fettuccini Alfredo, spaghetti with meatballs—that Seattleites have been enjoying since shoulder pads were in fashion. And over the years, I've always left feeling that I had good, reasonably priced food (appetizers range from \$3.50 to \$8.95, and most entrées are in the \$15 range). Indeed, I went for a belated birthday dinner last year, ate the veal saltimbocca, and left with the same vaguely positive impression.

However, when I went back to refresh those hazy memories, I was underwhelmed. The first meal I had could only be described as watery. Rarely does one adjective apply to an entire meal, from appetizer to pasta to main, but what else can I say? The Caesar salad was swimming in dressing, biting into the chicken-liver lasagna was like squeezing a sponge, and the veal piccata was awash in thin, hyper-lemmony sauce. The highlight was the Columbia City bread.

A return visit was necessary. Some of the people in Seattle whom I trust the most on food—such as former *Stranger* critic Bethany Jean Clement (now at the *Seattle Times*) and my friend, fellow food lover, and Cut.com weed-smoking-grandma wrangler Chris Chan—absolutely adore Machiavelli, and so it was hard for me to even believe what my taste buds were telling me. The second time around, I had the bresaola as an appetizer, which offered a promising start. But then, it's hard to screw up cured meat. I ordered the pasta special—shells with Italian sausage, cannelloni beans, and spinach in a marinara sauce—but the sauce was, again, watery. This was especially surprising because the sauce was advertised as having a “touch of cream,” confirmed by its pale red color. It wasn't horrible, but it wasn't exactly a food experience that might inspire the intense love Machiavelli fans have for the place.

I left puzzled. I had honestly expected to write a story about how Machiavelli's simple formula worked so well that it was impervious to the neighborhood's rapid changes, a best-kept secret from the tech army invaders and sustained by streetwise locals. As much of a slam dunk as that would be for a *Stranger* food review, it wouldn't be an entirely honest one. Certainly, you do not see the type of techies that are the target of so much local ire at Machiavelli. And both times I dined, I ran into people I've known and have been knocking around Capitol Hill with for nearly a decade.

But it's not that the locals have a secret; Machiavelli's popularity is a testament to the power of nostalgia. I can't say I love the food, but I still love going to Machiavelli. Going there now reminds me of being an extremely poor community college student and being able to occasionally feel like a normal human who could afford to eat a nice meal out once in a while. Funny how \$3 glasses of house red, attentive service, and a little candlelight will do that for you. (The house red now costs a whopping \$4.) For its regulars, Machiavelli likely provides a similar historical anchor—the number of couples that must have had their first date in the last 30 years at Machiavelli is probably staggering.

Maybe Machiavelli's formula is so successful not because of its food or its price point, but for those of us who have lived here a long time, the city is an increasingly foreign place. I went to high school and later college on Capitol Hill, and lived there for many years. Now when I walk around, I am often unable to pick out a single place I recognize from those days. There's nothing wrong with this phenomenon—the ship of Theseus still sailed fine after all the old boards had been replaced—but it can be unsettling at times. Institutions like Machiavelli can keep you from feeling unmoored. ■



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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY  
BY ROB BREZSNY

For the Week of January 18

**ARIES (March 21–April 19):** Are you more attracted to honing group dynamics or liberating group dynamics? Do you have more aptitude as a director who organizes people or as a spark plug who inspires people? Would you rather be a chief executive officer or a chief imagination officer? Questions like these will be fertile for you to meditate on in the coming weeks. The astrological omens suggest it's time to explore and activate more of your potential as a leader or catalyst.

**TAURUS (April 20–May 20):** An eccentric Frenchman named Laurent Aigon grew up near an airport and always daydreamed of becoming a commercial pilot. Sadly, he didn't do well enough in school to fulfill his wish. Yet he was smart and ambitious enough to accomplish the next best thing: assembling a realistic version of a Boeing 737 cockpit in his home. With the help of Google, he gathered the information he needed, and he ordered most of the necessary parts over the internet. The resulting masterpiece has enabled him to replicate the experience of being a pilot. It's such a convincing copy that he has been sought as a consultant by organizations that specialize in aircraft maintenance. I suggest you attempt a comparable feat, Taurus: creating a simulated version of what you want. I bet it will eventually lead you to the real thing.

**GEMINI (May 21–June 20):** The weather may be inclement where you live, so you may be resistant to my counsel. But I must tell you the meanings of the planetary omens as I understand them and not fret about whether you'll act on them. Here's my prescription, lifted from Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*: "We need the tonic of wildness, to wade sometimes in marshes where the bitter and the meadow-hen lurk, and hear the booming of the snipe; to smell the whispering sedge where only some wilder and more solitary fowl builds her nest, and the mink crawls with its belly close to the ground." And why does Thoreau say we need such experiences? "We must be refreshed by the sight of inexhaustible vigor, to witness our own limits transgressed."

**CANCER (June 21–July 22):** Welcome to the most deliciously enigmatic, sensually mysterious phase of your astrological cycle. To provide you with the proper non-rational guidance, I have stolen scraps of dusky advice from the poet Dansk Javlarne (danskjavlarne.tumblr.com). Please read between the lines: (1) Navigate the ocean that roars within the seashell. (2) Carry the key, even if the lock has been temporarily lost. (3) Search through the deepest shadows for the bright light that cast them. (4) Delve into the unfathomable in wordless awe of the inexplicable.

**LEO (July 23–Aug 22):** What exactly would a bolt of lightning taste like? I mean, if you could somehow manage to roll it around in your mouth without having to endure the white-hot shock. There's a booze manufacturer that claims to provide this sensation. The company known as Oddka has created Electricity Vodka, a hard liquor with an extra fizzy jolt. But if any sign of the zodiac could safely approximate eating a streak of lightning without the help of Electricity Vodka, it would be you Leos. These days, you have a special talent for absorbing and enjoying and integrating fiery inspiration.

**VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22):** Eighteenth-century painter Joshua Reynolds said that a "disposition to abstractions, to generalizing and classification, is the great glory of the human mind." To that lofty sentiment, his fellow artist William Blake responded, "To generalize is to be an idiot; to particularize is the alone distinction of merit." So I may be an idiot when I make the following generalization, but I think I'm right: In the coming weeks, it will be in your best interests to rely on crafty generalizations to guide your decisions. Getting bogged down in details at the expense of the big picture—missing the forest for the trees—is a potential pitfall that you can and should avoid.

**LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22):** Czech writer Bohumil Hrabal penned the novel *Dancing Lessons for the Advanced in Age*. It consists of one sentence. But it's a long, rambling sentence—117 pages' worth. It streams from the mouth of the narrator, who is an older man bent on telling all the big stories of his life. If there were ever to come a time when you, too, would have cosmic permission and a poetic license to deliver a one-sentence, 117-page soliloquy, Libra, it would be in the coming weeks. Reveal your truths! Break through your inhibitions! Celebrate your epic tales! (P.S.: Show this horoscope to the people you'd like as your listeners.)

**SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21):** When Pluto was discovered in 1930, astronomers called it the ninth planet. But 76 years later, they changed their mind. In accordance with shifting definitions, they demoted Pluto to the status of a mere "dwarf planet." But in recent years, two renowned astronomers at Caltech have found convincing evidence for a new ninth planet. Konstantin Batygin and Michael E. Brown are tracking an object that is much larger than Earth. Its orbit is so far beyond Neptune's that it takes 15,000 years to circle the sun. As yet it doesn't have an official name, but Batygin and Brown informally refer to it as "Phattie." I bring this to your attention, Scorpio, because I suspect that you, too, are on the verge of locating a monumental new addition to your universe.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21):** The tomato and potato are both nightshades, a family of flowering plants. Taking advantage of this commonality, botanists have used the technique of grafting to produce a pomato plant. Its roots yield potatoes, while its vines grow cherry tomatoes. Now would be a good time for you to experiment with a metaphorically similar creation, Sagittarius. Can you think of how you might generate two useful influences from a single source?

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19):** Some guy I don't know keeps sending me e-mails about great job opportunities he thinks I'd like to apply for: a technical writer for a solar energy company, for example, and a social media intern for a business that offers travel programs. His messages are not spam. The gigs are legitimate. And yet I'm not in the least interested. I already have several jobs I enjoy, like writing these horoscopes. I suspect that you, too, may receive worthy but ultimately irrelevant invitations in the coming days, Capricorn. My advice: If you remain faithful to your true needs and desires, more apropos offers will eventually flow your way.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18):** The word "naysayer" describes a person who's addicted to expressing negativity. A "yeasayer," on the other hand, is a person who is prone to expressing optimism. According to my assessment of the astrological omens, you can and should be a creative yeasayer in the coming days—both for the sake of your own well-being and that of everyone whose life you touch. For inspiration, study Upton Sinclair's passage about Beethoven: He was "the defier of fate, the great yea-sayer." His music is "like the wind running over a meadow of flowers, superlative happiness infinitely multiplied."

**PISCES (Feb 19–March 20):** If I'm feeling prosaic, I might refer to a group of flamingos as a flock. But one of the more colorful and equally correct terms is a "flamboynance" of flamingos. Similarly, a bunch of pretty insects with clubbed antennae and big fluttery wings may be called a kaleidoscope of butterflies. The collective noun for zebras can be a dazzle, for pheasants a bouquet, for larks an exaltation, and for finches a charm. In accordance with current astrological omens, I'm borrowing these nouns to describe members of your tribe. A flamboynance or kaleidoscope of Pisceans? Yes! A dazzle or bouquet or exaltation or charm of Pisceans? Yes! All of the above.■


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PERSON OF INTEREST

Negarra A. Kudumu

TEXT BY CHARLES MUDEDE  
PHOTO BY STANTON STEPHENS

Negarra A. Kudumu is something like a marvelous cloud of thinking and practices that are constantly processing contemporary art, curation, and critical theory. Her main interest is, to use her words, “the emerging visual culture of the African continent, Iran, South Asia, and their respective diasporas.” In her essays and lectures, ideas from a variety of sources (high and low) meet at points that crackle and spark. For example, her lectures and posts on Black Constellation, the local/international art movement that counts Shabazz Palaces among its members, are as rich and insightful as the works by the movement’s artists. She is currently manager of public programs at the Frye Art Museum, where she recently organized *Those Without Voice*, an exhibition of photo and video work created by local high-school students to express their views on social issues.

**Who is your favorite artist right now?**  
I don’t have just one. I’m currently very

enchanted by Mohau Modisakeng, Kader Attia, Yto Barrada, Mounir Fatmi, and Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, to name just a few.

**What are you currently working on?**  
Sundry writing projects, developing exhibition ideas, and programming at the Frye.

**You were new to the city not too long ago. Any advice for new Seattleites?**  
Take the 7 bus.

**What do you think Seattle needs more of?**  
Folks who aren’t afraid to say out loud, “Don’t piss on me and call it rain,” especially in the arts community.

**Is there a movement or exhibit you think Seattle needs to recognize?**  
Everyone in Seattle, especially those working in the arts community, need to read Bruce Mau’s “An Incomplete Manifesto for Growth” with special attention paid to items 5, 11, 17, 28, 40, and 42. Take great care, however, with item 35.

**What is your favorite restaurant in Seattle?**  
Marjorie.

**What do you like to eat there?**  
The burger.

**Favorite bar?**  
I pour really great wines at my home.

**What music have you been listening to lately?**  
Lots of classical, opera specifically. *Carmen* is my favorite opera. And Erik Blood’s *Lost in Slow Motion*. It continues to be the solution for pretty much everything.

**What have you been reading and watching?**  
I am revisiting Pedro Almodóvar’s films. I started getting into Ousmane Sembène and Akira Kurosawa this autumn. I will spend the winter knee-deep in nouvelle vague and cinema novo. The Cuban filmmaker Gloria Rolando has a newish film out that I really want to see called *Diálogo Con Mi Abuela*. My book lists are obscenely long. Right now, I have some Pierre Bourdieu and Frantz Fanon I need to finally finish. I need to revisit Octavia Butler, Toni Morrison, Gabriel García Márquez, and James Baldwin as well. I just learned about Jean Fisher and John Berger, and their work seems like it would be useful for my practice, so I will read them, too.

**What’s your strategy for dealing with Seattle’s winter gloom?**  
Home-cooked meals with friends. ■

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